



# AG AND NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER

Hello, everyone! I think it's fair to say that we are full-swing into the fall season, and I am hopeful that it has been treating you as well as possible. It has been extremely dry, and I'd have to go back all the way to when I last lived out West to remember snow and bone-chilling cold in mid-October like we had week before last!

I am sad to inform you that this will be my last newsletter as your Nicholas County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources/4-H Youth Development. I will be leaving my position immediately prior to Thanksgiving week because of a number of personal circumstances and family matters that require my undivided attention over the next several months. I have been very happy in my position, and being your county agent these past 10 months has been a most rewarding and satisfying experience from which I have learned a lot about myself and a number of program areas in which I previously had limited experience and expertise. I enjoy the people with and for whom I work and will miss them, including all of you and especially my co-workers Michelle and Ashley here in the Extension office, and my immediate supervisor Lisa. I appreciate your understanding of this difficult but necessary decision where I am putting family first above all else. Thank you for all the fond memories that I will take with me from our time together these past 10 months. I am a better person for it, and I hope that I will be remembered as someone who gave his all toward something very worthwhile and meaningful for the common good in Nicholas County. I would do it all over again.

I look forward over the next month to wrapping up my work with you, so be sure to call (859-289-2312) or stop by if we can be of assistance with any number of things that keep us especially busy during the fall such as soil testing, BQCA certification, Private Pesticide Applicator training, CAIP education, Produce Best Practices training, etc., just to name a few.



*Russ Muntiferung*



**Russ Muntiferung**  
Extension Agent for ANR/4-H Youth Development  
University of Kentucky  
Nicholas County Cooperative Extension  
P.O. Box 3, 368 E. Main St.  
Carlisle KY 40311  
[859-289-2312](tel:859-289-2312)  
[russ.muntiferung@uky.edu](mailto:russ.muntiferung@uky.edu)

## Upcoming Events

**Market Ready  
Training 11/7,  
11/9, 11/11- See  
page 12**

**Beef  
Management  
Webinar- Nov. 8**

**Horsemanship  
Demo Day-  
November 12**



# Preventing and managing fall pests in your home

As temperatures go down this fall, you may notice more insects around your home. Insects often retreat indoors to escape the cooler temperatures as a part of their overwintering strategy.

As pests mistake your home for a heated pile of rocks, you may see hundreds, even thousands, of insects around your home this fall and winter. The most common autumn home invaders you may see are multicolored Asian ladybeetles and the brown marmorated stink bug. Brown marmorated stink bugs tend to be the first invader with the multicolored Asian lady beetle following about a month later. The lady beetle is sometimes called the Halloween beetle for its coloration and the fact that people usually start to notice them in October.

While cooler temperatures have begun, you still have ways to pest-proof your home before pests make their mass exodus to warmer hideaways.

Inspect the exterior of the property and look for gaps in windows and doors, holes in screens, openings in caulk or other sealants and fix them. Without these easy entry points, insects have a tougher time coming inside.

Pesticide applications on the outside of the home may also provide some relief but timing is crucial. When using pesticides, focus on doors, windows, utility openings and banding around the foundation. Make sure to check the label of the pesticide to make sure you can apply it to the necessary areas.

Since the primetime for pesticide application has passed, if you see clusters of pests on the exterior of your home, you may also spray them with soapy water to kill them before they start squeezing their way inside.

Once the pests have come into your home, it is best to manage them simply by vacuuming or sweeping them up for disposal. Interior pesticide applications are usually unnecessary, especially “bug bomb” type applications which usually don’t reach the hiding spots of overwintering pests.

For more information about pest prevention and management, contact your Nicholas Cooperative Extension Service.

Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expressions, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.

## USDA 2022 Census of Agriculture

Kentucky’s farmers will soon have the opportunity to be represented in the nation’s only comprehensive and impartial agriculture data for every state and county. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will mail the 2022 Census of Agriculture to 125,000 Kentucky ag producers this fall.

The 2022 Census of Agriculture will be mailed in phases, starting with an invitation to respond online in November. Farm operations of all sizes, urban and rural, which produced and sold, or normally would have sold, \$1,000 or more of agricultural product in 2022 are included in the ag census.

Collected in service to American agriculture since 1840, the Census of Agriculture tells the story and shows the value of Kentucky’s agriculture. It highlights land use and ownership, producer characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures, among other topics. For more information visit [www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus](http://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus).



## UK Beef Management Webinar Series

Registration is necessary. To do so, please send an email to [dbullock@uky.edu](mailto: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.**

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

For additional information, contact the Nicholas County Extension Office ([russ.muntifering@uky.edu](mailto:russ.muntifering@uky.edu) or 859-289-2312).

Beginning November 8, the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment will host a series of five webinars covering field crop protection featuring UK Extension Specialists discussing weed science, plant pathology and entomology.

The Tuesday morning webinars will take place via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. EST, and preregistration is required for each webinar.

Details and links for preregistration are as follows:

- Nov. 8 - Weed Control Lessons Learned From the 2022 Crop Season with J.D. Green, weed scientist
- [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_4JOvXYvR76AZXp\\_tSmBwg](https://zoom.us/join/zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4JOvXYvR76AZXp_tSmBwg)
- Nov. 15 - Managing Important Soilborne Diseases of Soybean in Kentucky with Carl Bradley, plant pathologist
- [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_t6D6toO8Sh2BhvoD3iw1HQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_t6D6toO8Sh2BhvoD3iw1HQ)
- Nov. 22 - Implementing Defensive Shifts Against Problematic Kentucky Weeds with Travis Legleiter, weed scientist
- [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_QnugWpJQUynBXDF4io9zg](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QnugWpJQUynBXDF4io9zg)
- Dec. 6 - Corn Disease Management Questions Asked in 2022 with Kiersten A. Wise, plant pathologist
- [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_KwibLtsHQY6oJiKzURCEQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KwibLtsHQY6oJiKzURCEQ)
- Dec. 13 - Entomological Studies in Corn and Soybeans Under Difficult Circumstances (Covid, a Tornado and Drought) in 2022 with Raul Villanueva, entomologist
- [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_3KVwBMYKOYKnzW1K-A0-g](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3KVwBMYKOYKnzW1K-A0-g)

Participants may receive one hour per webinar in continuing education units for Certified Crop Advisers. Pesticide applicators can receive one specific continuing education unit in categories 1A and 10 per webinar. Pesticide applicators will receive December webinar credits in January 2023 that will not count toward the 2022 certification deadline. Category 12 no longer requires certification testing or CEUs.

For more information, questions or help with registration, contact Jason Travis, UK agricultural extension associate, at 859-562-2569 or email [jason.travis@uky.edu](mailto:jason.travis@uky.edu).



# MARKETREADY PRODUCER TRAINING

MarketReady educates producers interested in expanding their business & products into wholesale, retail, & restaurant markets.

*This training is free, but space is limited. Register today!*

We are offering 3 virtual training opportunities\*

### Training Dates:

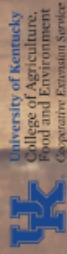
- Monday, Nov. 7th 6PM EST
- Wed., Nov. 9th 11:30AM EST
- Friday, Nov. 11th 11:30AM EST

\*all 3 trainings cover the same material

REGISTER AT: [MARKETREADY.UKY.EDU/EVENTS](http://MARKETREADY.UKY.EDU/EVENTS)



# Horse & Horsemanship



# Demonstration Let's Go Show!

Do not bring your horse. Participants are encouraged to bring their bridles and equipment.

**Saturday, November 12, 2022**  
**Cowtown Arena**  
 210 Wainscott Road, Williamstown, KY 41097

**Registration 8:30 a.m.**  
**Morning Session 9:00 a.m.**

- How to be Show Ring ready
- Legal Bits, Bridles, Tack and Show Attire
- Behavior and Safety
- Halters and Ground Manners

**Break for Lunch** (food available for purchase on site)

**Afternoon Demonstrations 1:00 p.m.**

- Western and English Riding
- Saddle Seat and Dressage Riding
- Carriage Driving

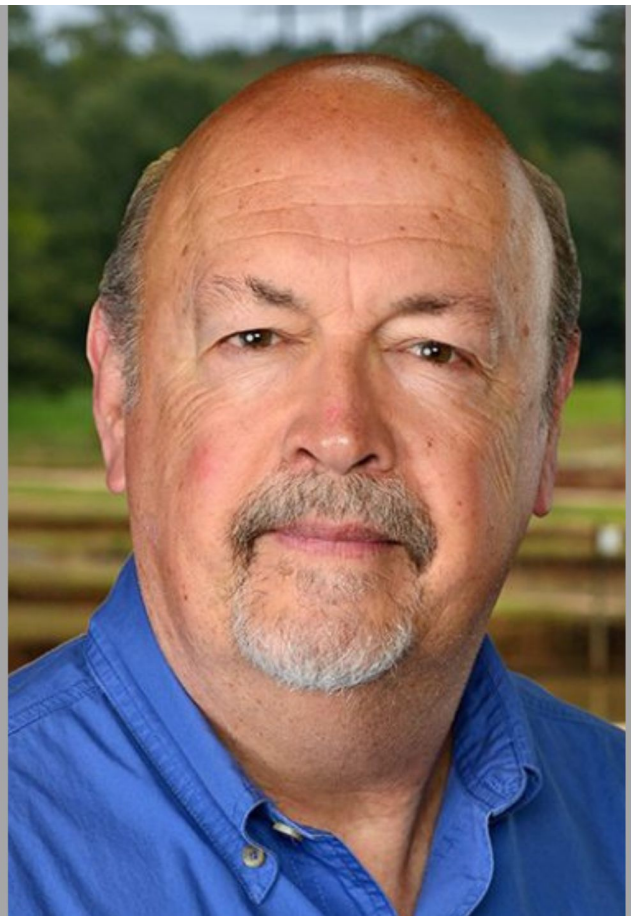
**Guest Speakers:** Dr. Bob Coleman, UK Equine Extension Specialist, Dr. Fernanda Camargo, DVM, and Richard Lockhart.  
**NKHN Presenters:** Jackie Holland, Susan Dickinson, and Charlie Poppe.

**For more information:**  
 Northern Kentucky Horse Network: [www.nkhn.info](http://www.nkhn.info)  
 Campbell County Extension Office (859) 572-2600  
 Kenton County Extension Office (859) 356-3155

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A BEST  
WISHES RECEPTION FOR

## Russ Muntifering

Stop by the office anytime between  
1 p.m.-3 p.m. on Tuesday, November  
15th to visit with Russ, enjoy light  
refreshments, and thank him for his  
time here as the ANR Agent in  
Nicholas County.



## Kentucky agriculture at Mother Nature's mercy as drought conditions worsen, Mississippi River traffic slows

By: Aimee Nielson  
LEXINGTON, Ky.

Kentucky farmers, especially in the western part of the state, are experiencing drought conditions worse than the 1980s. Combined with increased input costs, a bevy of natural disasters and historically low levels on the Mississippi River, University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment specialists are concerned about the winter and even the coming spring.

"Higher input costs have driven up production costs for livestock," said Jeff Lehmkuhler, UK beef specialist. "This drought has resulted in no fall pasture forage growth, leading to farmers feeding hay earlier than usual."

Lehmkuhler said those pastures will likely see plant losses which has implications for the next growing season.

"We'll probably see a slower spring green up and farmers will have to feed hay longer than usual and they'll also need to renovate some pastures," he added. "Thankfully, most areas did see a rebound in hay yield after the dry weather in June, so they do have hay available. We will also have to closely monitor the body condition of spring-calving cows as they won't gain lost condition back as quickly as hay quality is generally lower than fall pasture."

He added that producers will likely have to supplement nutrition if hay quality is marginal so they can help cows maintain body tissue during lactation. Producers can contact their local county extension office to discuss options for hay testing.

The Mississippi River is crucial for Kentucky agriculture. Barges transport exported soybeans. With the record-low water levels, traffic is slowing as barges run aground on sandbars in unprecedented numbers.

"The river hasn't been this low since the 1980s, maybe longer," said Chad Lee, director of the UK Grain and Forage Center of Excellence. "This has already hurt the local price for soybeans. On Oct. 17, there were 51 barges parked at Hickman, Kentucky, while crews dredged the riverbed to clear debris so they could pass."

He said the dry weather has made for easy corn and soybean harvest. Much of the grain has dried down on its own, but Lee emphasized that the river situation has highlighted the fact that farmers really need their own storage.

Lee said barge prices have jumped due to the slowed traffic.

"Grain farmers are taking up to \$1 per bushel off of the soybean price to 'pay' for barges. Some are instead stockpiling soybeans to wait until barge prices drop. But, if you're a farmer without on-farm storage, you have to take the cut."

Lee said it's hard to see the ups and downs the past year has thrown at Kentucky farmers.

"A cattle and grain farmer recently told me that he had more money in the bank from 2021 than ever before in about 40 years of farming," he said. "This spring, he spent all of it on input costs."

UK agricultural meteorologist Matt Dixon said recent rains in the state have not been enough to make a difference.

“The highest accumulations were seen along a thin strip from South-Central to Northeastern Kentucky, some picking up an inch or more,” Dixon said. “Unfortunately, the hardest hit drought areas across Western Kentucky stayed below a quarter of an inch.”

With little chance of rain soon, conditions will lead the state into a fifth straight week of below-normal precipitation. Nearly half of Kentucky is in a moderate drought according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Severe drought is slightly expanding in Western Kentucky.

Tom Miller, Ballard County extension agent for agriculture and natural resources, grew up in Kentucky and moved away for a time, but has been back for the past 20 years. He said this is the worst drought he’s seen. His county hasn’t had measurable rainfall since early August.

“We got timely rain through mid-July and most of the corn pollinated,” he said. “The north side of the county was really good; there was a lot of 200-bushel corn, but the south side of the county was 100- to 150-bushel, mostly because of one rain event.”

Miller said the county was one good rainfall away from a bumper corn crop and one event away from a complete failure. But soybeans are a different story.

“Soybeans are really hurt since we haven’t really had any rain since August,” he said. “Fortunately, we are not dependent on barges to transport our crop since we can just drive it a short way to Cairo, Illinois. We’ve gone ahead and planted the wheat crop in dry soil. It won’t come up until it rains. Hopefully, we get enough to get it up and growing.”

Dixon said Kentucky is not alone in this battle for adequate moisture. Add to that windy conditions and farmers have the perfect recipe for harvest-time fires.

“Much of the Lower Mississippi Valley is in the same boat as us, getting drier by the day and below normal rainfall is expected over the second half of October,” he said. “Take precautions during harvest to prevent fire. Have fire extinguishers on hand and possibly, another source of water. I’ve already heard of several fires, and breezy winds combined with low relative humidity won’t help matters.”

Miller said he’s concerned with Ballard County cattle producers already feeding hay like it’s the middle of winter. In that vein, Lehmkuhler stressed that farmers need to take inventory of their hay supply now and calculate how much they will need for the rest of the winter into spring.

“If you wait until you need it, you’ve waited too long,” he said.

A useful tool for cattle producers is the UK Beef Cow Forage Supplement Tool at <http://forage-supplement-tool.ca.uky.edu/>. This online tool helps producers estimate forage intake and supplementation rates.

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## UK Beef Cow Forage Supplement Tool



### Forage Analysis - Dry Matter Basis

Dry Matter  %

Crude Protein  %

NDF  %

TDN  %

### Stage of Production

Mid-Gestation

### Supplements

- Corn
- Soyhull
- 75% Soyhull / 25% Gluten
- 85% Soyhull / 15% DDGS
- 67% Soyhull / 33% Gluten
- 80% Soyhull / 20% DDGS
- 75% Soyhull / 25% DDGS
- 50% Soyhull / 50% Gluten



# Deer Camp Sausage



## Ingredients:

- 2 pounds ground venison
- 1 pound ground pork
- 1 teaspoon dried marjoram or oregano
- 1 tablespoon dried sage
- 1 tablespoon dried basil
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 1 egg, beaten
- ¼ cup bread crumbs
- ¼ cup cooking oil

## Directions:

Combine meat and seasonings. Add egg and bread crumbs. Stir well. Shape into 16 patties. Fry in oil until golden brown on each side and internal temperature reaches 165 degrees Fahrenheit.



Stop by our office for the NEW 2022-23 Cook Wild Kentucky Calendars!