

The February 2025 Edition of:

NIKKI'S NEWSLETTER

Marshall County Agriculture and Natural Resources's Update

Cooperative Extension
University of Kentucky
2081 Mayfield Highway
Benton, Ky 42025
270-527-3285
marshall.ca.uky.edu

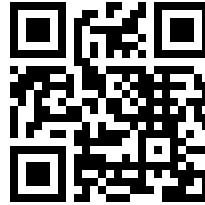
Happy pruning season! The best time to prune limbs on many trees is during the late winter or early spring. This allows for more wound closure during the growing season and reduced chances of disease exposure. Here are a couple of tree pruning tips:

- Prune trees to a central liter for stronger structures
- Use the "3 part cut method" (see page 8 for QR code link to graphic)
- Don't remove more than 25% of branches
- Cut just outside the branch collar. Don't cut flush with the trunk, nor leave a stub
- If you have fruit trees, call the Marshall County Extension Office to request a free home pruning lesson/visit from a Master Gardener!

For more information, follow the QR code at the bottom of page 4 and/or attend one of the lessons provided by the Marshall Master Gardeners at our local libraries advertised on page 8!

Nearby Upcoming Grain Programs:

- KATS Drone Sprayer Training March 20
- Italian Ryegrass Control Field Tour March 27
- Wheat Field Day May 13
- KATS Crop Scouting Workshop May 15
- KATS Planter Clinic June (TBD)
- Pest Management Field Day June 26
- Corn, Soybean and Tobacco Field Day July 22
- KATS Field Crop Pest Management & Spray Clinic August 28



*Follow the QR code on the right for more details!

Attention Woodland Owners, are you interested in the potential of making extra profits from your land investment? Are you considering carbon markets? Then checkout the "Woodland Carbon Market" program advertised on page 6 to receive an unbiased breakdown of whether carbon markets are worth your while!

LAST CHANCE PESTICIDE CLASS- Don't miss the last scheduled private applicator class of 2025! Due to participant demand, it's a night class! See page 9 for more details!

The Benton City Council is currently drafting a proposal that will **require Farmers Market vendors to have a business license**. If you have an opinion on this matter I would encourage you to contact a Benton City Council Representative as soon as possible, as changes are already in motion. (I just learned about this yesterday.)

February has already thrown some crazy weather at us. I hope everyone managed to stay warm and dry during these insane weather episodes. For those who did not, please request resources from the Extension Office, we may have **disaster resources** that could help.

Stay "aggie" out there! -Nikki

What's in this Issue?



GENERAL

- P.2 Soil Building Field Day
- P.4 Conservation District Highlight
- P.5 1099 Tax Form for Farms
- P.6 Woodland Carbon Markets
- P.8 From the Woods
- P.9 Pesticide Cards



LIVESTOCK

- P.3 Avian Influenza
- P.7 Livestock Disposal



HORTICULTURE

- P.4 Pruning Trees Pub.
- P.5 Master Gardener Plant Sale
- P.8 Pruning Lesson & Choosing Healthy Transplants
- P.9 Chop & Prop



RECIPE OF

- P.10 Butternut Squash Soup



SOIL BUILDING FIELD DAY

HOW TO GAIN 2' OF SOIL BY DISSOLVING THE FRAGIPAN

MARCH 13TH, 9:00 AM
PASCHALL AG OPERATIONS
1434 BILLY PASCHALL RD
MURRAY, KY 42071

LUNCH @ YATES CENTER
2760 ST RT 121 N,
MURRAY, KY 42071

Real on farm evidence of fragipan remediation using annual rye grass as a cover crop for 10 years.

Shallow Fragipan based soil transformed to a deep highly productive soil.

- COME AND SEE -

On farm soil pits to compare treated and untreated areas of the same soil types.

**Dr. Lloyd Murdock,
*University of Kentucky***

**Dr. Tasio Karathanasis,
*University of Kentucky***

**Dr. John Murphy
*Soil Scientist***

Panel Discussion:
George Pettit - Moderator
Mitchell & Kody Paschall
Junior Upton
Matt Griggs
Jonathan Reynolds

CALL 270-753-1452 (CALLOWAY EXT.) TO RSVP



Cooperative Extension Service

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

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension 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 expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating. Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.



Avian Influenza

Use these basic tips to keep your birds healthy and prevent the spread of serious diseases like avian influenza and virulent Newcastle disease.

1. Always practice good biosecurity.

Review the 14 National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) Biosecurity Principles (www.poultryimprovement.org/documents/StandardE-BiosecurityPrinciples.pdf) and create a biosecurity plan for your premises.

2. Remember to wash your hands before and after coming into contact with poultry.

If you don't have soap and water, use hand sanitizer.

3. Protect yourself.

Don't kiss or snuggle with your birds.

4. Protect your poultry.

Put control programs in place for wild birds (including their feces and their feathers), rodents, and insects. Clean and disinfect any poultry equipment before and after use.

5. Monitor your flock's health.

Know the signs of disease and check your flock daily for any signs of illness. Quarantine sick birds right away.

6. Report sick birds!

Call USDA toll-free at **1.866.536.7593** to reach our veterinarians. USDA can test your birds free of charge to make sure they don't have a serious poultry disease.



For free resources and to learn more about good biosecurity, visit: www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock

Let's Keep Our Poultry Healthy Together

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.
Program Aid No. 2248 | Issued September 2019



Marshall Co. Conservation District's Highlight of the Month: Ag Day, Tree Giveaway, Contests and more!



Bring on Spring! It may only be February, but the Marshall County Conservation District is gearing up for warmer weather.

The Art & Writing contest winners were selected for the county back in December and will be announced within the month. Winners from each elementary school receive cash prizes and a t-shirt. The theme of the contest for 2024 Was 'Protecting the Forest Together'.

Plans for the Ag Day event for fourth grade have begun with the date set for Friday, April 4th. The Ag District recertification process for District 079-03 has begun. Division of Conservation staff have provided information from the Marshall County Property Valuation Administration for landowners within this district.

Preliminary documents have been sent to Tichenor and Associates for the upcoming audit as required by Kentucky Revised Statute 65A.030. Tree seedlings were ordered last fall and will be available for pickup (FREE!) on or around April 22nd.

For more information about any of these events, please contact our office at 270.527.2606 or email Vicki at mccd@bellsouth.net

UK Publication of the Month!

Pruning Trees (FOR-129)

While most tree species can be pruned throughout the year, the best time to prune trees is when they are dormant in the winter before the bark loosens up about a month before they leaf out. Branches are easier to see, lighter without the foliage, and the potential for spreading diseases, and the chance for peeling bark from the tree is less.



UK University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food & Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

FOR-129
SMALL WOODS, BIG OPPORTUNITIES SERIES
This series serves as an introduction to issues and practices common to small family forest owners.

Pruning Trees

Christopher Reeves, Forestry

Trees benefit from pruning when they have tight branch angles or they are damaged, diseased, or in the way. Trees in landscapes often differ from forest-grown trees in the amount of light that each branch receives. Tree branches in landscapes are frequently not shaded by other trees and become large and long-lived. Shading in woodlands reduces light to lower branches resulting in natural pruning. This results in main stems that are clear of branches for many feet resulting in a higher valued timber product. This fact sheet addresses if, when, and how to prune trees primarily in woodland settings.

To Prune or Not to Prune
In natural hardwood forests common throughout Kentucky, pruning to improve the timber value of woodland trees is generally not warranted. However, it can add value to plantation trees. Unlike natural forests this type of pruning helps in plantations because they are younger and have fewer trees than naturally regenerating forests. As a result they do not produce as many rapidly growing straight trees, nor generate enough shade to naturally shed branches compared to natural forests. Contact a forester to determine if pruning is an appropriate practice for your plantation.

Pruning is generally more applicable for landscape trees. Pruning these trees is undertaken to improve safety, health, and aesthetics. Removing disease or insect infested branches can prolong the life and safety of trees. Landowners interested in pruning their landscape trees for shade, flowers, or fruits should consult the references for more applicable information.

What and When to Prune
While most species can be pruned throughout the year, the best time to prune trees is when they are dormant in the winter before the bark loosens up a month before leaf out. Branches are easier to see, lighter without the foliage, and the potential for spreading diseases, and the chance for peeling bark from the tree is less. As trees grow taller, branches remain at the same height so consider pruning limbs that are in the way. Any branch that will ultimately need to be removed should be pruned when it is as small as possible. The smaller the branch, the easier it is for the tree to close over the wound.

Pruning of newly planted trees is not recommended to compensate for roots lost in transplanting. Corrective pruning to remove defective branches may be beneficial. Starting two years after planting, light corrective pruning, especially to

Wide-spread pruning in natural stands is not recommended because of the high economic costs.

Topping or rounding-over of trees should not occur. The resulting tree is less healthy and environmental benefits are reduced.

Produced in partnership with the Kentucky Division of Forestry.

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

You May See a New 1099 Form in Your Mailbox

By Jerry Pierce | Kentucky Farm Business Management Program

Farmers may begin receiving a new income-reporting Form 1099-K, Payment Card and Third Party Network Transactions. It reports gross payments to you for goods or services made through credit card, gift or debit card, and on-line payment services. These Third Party Settlement Organizations (TPSO) take payment from customers for you. This includes things like Venmo and PayPal. For 2024, these TPSOs are required to issue a 1099-K if total payments to you exceed \$5,000, but they may send one even if the payments are less. For 2025, the amount is \$2,500, and by 2026 the threshold falls to \$600, like most other Form 1099s. The lower threshold will result in a lot more 1099-Ks being issued to many more taxpayers.

Currently, these kinds of farm transactions are used commonly for direct sales to customers. Think farmers' markets, on-farm retail markets, roadside stands, online sales, nurseries, wineries, and agritourism operations. But they are also being used for sales of hay and livestock.

What to report: Report the full amount of gross payments from Form 1099-K. Use your records to verify accuracy and proper reporting of gross payments on your tax return.

Generally, payments from family and friends will not be reported on Form 1099-K, but the purpose of payments isn't always clear. You may have to ask the TPSO to send a corrected 1099-K to remove non-farm income. You should set up a separate business account with the TPSO for receiving farm income and a personal account for non-farm income to keep the payments separate. If the transactions are for farm income you should deduct fees, credits, refunds, and shipping costs charged by the credit card company or TPSO as farm expenses.

Where to report: Report gross payments as you would income from other forms of payment. Report payment for farm-related sales, custom work income, and miscellaneous farm income on Schedule F (Form 1040). Report gross payments for sales of farm equipment and breeding livestock on Form 4797. Rent will generally be reported on Schedule E (Form 1040). Do not subtract expenses from the amount reported on Form 1099-K. The IRS will be looking for the gross payments reported on your return. Include them in expenses on the appropriate return.

Report sales of personal items, like autos and appliances, and sales and services from a hobby, on Form 1040. Third-party networks will require you to complete a Form W-9 with your Employer ID Number or Social Security Number for reporting purposes so they can report to the IRS. Failure to do so may result in backup withholding of 28% of gross payments, and possibly loss of the service.

For more information see Understanding your Form 1099-K at <https://www.irs.gov/businesses/understanding-your-form-1099-k>. See also the Tax Topic Form 1099 Information Returns at <https://extension.usu.edu/ruraltax/>.

Save the Date!



**9th Annual
Marshall
Master Gardener
Plant Sale
May 17th!**





The Marshall & McCracken Extension Services Present:

WOODLAND CARBON MARKETS

Interested in making income off you woodland property? Curious about voluntary carbon markets for woodlands? Join UK Extension Professor, Jordan Shockley, for a free unbiased informational meeting. Learn what a carbon market is, about the status of carbon markets in the U.S., the opportunities for Kentucky woodland owners, practices required, the value of carbon credits, legal challenges and more!



Guest Speaker
Dr. Jordan Shockley,
UK Extension Economist

MON

March 31
2025

TWO CHANCES:
MARSHALL COUNTY AT 5:30PM
MCCRACKEN COUNTY AT 10:00AM

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

MARTIN GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT
Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English.
University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.



KENTUCKY
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF STATE VETERINARIAN

LIVESTOCK DISPOSAL

FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Scan the QR codes for information on
livestock disposal:



KY Department of
Agriculture:
Livestock Disposal



USDA: Emergency
Response
for Carcass Disposal



USDA: Animal Mortality
Disposal



University of Kentucky
Extension:
On-Farm Disposal of Animal
Mortalities



University of Kentucky
Extension:
On-Farm Composting of
Animal Mortalities



CDC Safety Guidelines:
Disposing of Dead Animals
After a Disaster



Division of Emergency Preparedness & Response

For more information, contact our office. ☎ (502) 573 - 0282 ✉ statevet@ky.gov 🌐 www.kyagr.com



MASTER GARDENER LIBRARY LESSONS

PRUNING 101

Join Master Gardener Carl Newton for a free lesson on pruning! He will touch on topics like proper pruning timing, techniques & tools! Come ready to have your most puzzling pruning questions answered!

Two chances to attend!
Marshall County Public Library Branches:
Hardin- March 12th from 10-11:00am
Calvert City- March 19th from 10-11:00am



Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension 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 expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

FROM THE WOODS



TODAY

Watch Live on
Wednesday's at 10am CT



UK Cooperative Extension Service



CHOOSING HEALTHY TRANSPLANTS

- Look for compact plants with short distances between leaves, thick stems, and dark green, upright leaves.
- Avoid plants showing signs of flowering or fruiting early on. It may take longer to establish compared to those grown in containers.
- Be wary of plants clipped before shipping, as this can cause stress and spread disease.
- Ensure plants have been hardened off (gradually acclimated to outdoor conditions) before planting.

Source: UK Extension Publication ID-128
An Equal Opportunity Organization.



Lunch Break Gardening Series



March 5th's
Topic:
Chop & Prop
-in a clear container

Join Master Gardener Rinna Cooper as she demonstrates how to "chop & prop" in a clear container. She successfully uses this propagation method with herbs, houseplants & outdoor plants.

Join us during your lunch break for a gardening workshop!

\$12
Includes lunch from a local restaurant

1st Wednesday Monthly
12:15-12:45pm
at the Marshall County Extension Office

 Must RSVP by Feb. 28th
Call 270-527-3285

Pesticide Private Applicator

2025 Trainings

Who needs this certification?
Anyone who sprays "restricted use" pesticides privately (not for compensation.) Those who spray for compensation need a commercial applicator license from the KDA.

How long does it last?
It's valid for 3 years and expires on Dec. 31st of the final year.

What if you absolutely cannot attend?
Contact the Extension Office to schedule a one-on-one training.

Three chances:

Wednesday
Jan. 15th
2:00pm

Tuesday
Feb. 18th
8:30am

Thursday
March 13th
6:00pm



LAST CHANCE!!!!

RSVP by calling 270-527-3285

Recipe of the Month

Butternut & Acorn Squash Soup

Directions: Using a vegetable peeler, remove the skin from the butternut and acorn squashes and cut into 1-inch cubes. In a large soup pot, heat the oil on medium high. Add the onion, and cook 1 to 2 minutes until it starts to become translucent. Add cubed squash, and cook 4 to 5 minutes. Add chicken broth, and bring to a boil. Lower heat, and simmer 30 to 35 minutes, until the squash is fork tender. Allow to cool slightly, then blend until smooth in a food processor or blender. Return mixture to the pot, and heat to medium low. Add peanut butter, brown sugar, pepper, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Stir until well blended. Garnish with fresh parsley. Serve warm. Servings: 7 (1 cup)

Nutritional Analysis: 200 calories, 6 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 600 mg sodium, 36 g carbohydrate, 4 g fiber, 14 g sugar, 10 g added sugar, & 4 g protein

Ingredients:

- 1 butternut squash, halved and seeded
- 1 acorn squash, halved and seeded
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/3 cup chopped sweet onion
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 3 tablespoons peanut butter
- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- Fresh parsley for garnish

Kentucky Winter Squash



SEASON: August through October.

NUTRITION FACTS: Winter squash, which includes acorn squash, butternut squash, pumpkin, and other varieties, is low in fat and sodium and an excellent source of vitamin A and fiber.

SELECTION: Winter squash should be heavy for its size with a hard, tough rind that is free of blemishes or soft spots.

STORAGE: Store in a cool, dry place and use within one month.

PREPARATION:

To steam: Wash, peel, and remove seeds. Cut squash into 2-inch cubes or quarter, leaving rind on (it will remove easily after cooking). Bring 1 inch of water to a boil in a saucepan and place squash on a rack or basket in the pan. Do not immerse it in water. Cover the pan

tightly and steam the squash 30 to 40 minutes or until tender.

To microwave: Wash squash and cut it lengthwise. Remove seeds. Place it in a baking dish and cover with plastic wrap. Microwave until tender, using these guidelines:

- **Acorn squash:** 1/2 squash, 5 to 8 minutes; whole squash, 8 1/2 to 11 1/2 minutes.
- **Butternut squash:** 2 pieces, 3 to 4 1/2 minutes.
- **Pumpkin:** 1 pound piece, 7 to 8 minutes.

To bake: Wash squash, and cut it lengthwise. Smaller squash can be cut in half; larger squash should be cut into portions. Remove seeds, and place squash in a baking dish. Bake at 400 degrees F for 1 hour or until tender. Seeds can be toasted at 350 degrees F for 20 minutes.

WINTER SQUASH

Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences

University of Kentucky, Dietetics and Human Nutrition students

November 2019

Source: www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov

Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers market, or roadside stand. <http://plateitup.ca.uky.edu>



Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension 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 expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability. For more information, contact your county's Extension agent for Family and Consumer Sciences or visit www.uky.edu/fcs

 University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Follow on



 Facebook:
[@marshallcountyanr](https://www.facebook.com/marshallcountyanr)



 Website:
marshall.ca.uky.edu/anr


Marshall County ANR Agent

Cooperative Extension Service

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

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension 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 expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating. Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification