



Woodford County
Cooperative Extension Service
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Out To Pasture November 2022

ACROSS THE AGENT'S DESK

While I don't normally put out a lot of information from popular press, this is one report that seems warranted.

One of the biggest challenges we face in agriculture is telling our story. With so many people removed by several generations from the farm, some of the basic things those of us in production agriculture take for granted is that we think people know how a farm is operated. Truth is, many middle-aged consumers even in rural America are now 3+ generations removed from the farm. It wasn't their grandparents that had a farm, but their great, or great-great grandparents that farmed.

I wanted to share this video report that also features one of our Extension Grain Crop Agronomists, Dr. Chad Lee, that does a good job of sharing the story that many of you are experiencing everyday.

<https://youtu.be/Mri7Rpw4jro>



UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 3-17 – [North American International Livestock Expo](#); Kentucky Fair & Expo Center; Louisville, KY

Nov 16 – [Stocker Profitability Conference](#); Warren Co. Extension Service; Bowling Green, KY

Nov 24-25 – Thanksgiving Holiday; *office closed*

Dec 5 – Winter Beef Series; Woodford Co. Extension Service; Versailles, KY; 6:30pm

Dec 26 – Jan 2 –Holiday Break; office closed

GENERAL

Soil Acidity; What It Is, How It Is Measured, Why It Is Important

Source: Drs. John Grove & Edwin Ritchey; UK Soil Scientists

The chemical health of the soil supporting your crop is strongly related to soil pH and fall is the best time to correct excess soil acidity. Soils are usually dry and application traffic compaction is less likely. Lime takes time to react, to neutralize soil acids, and fall application allows greater acidity reduction prior to spring planting. Soil samples may be a bit difficult to take when the soil is dry (as is the case in much of Kentucky right now), but the benefits of early detection and correction of acid soils in your crop production fields can be very significant.

Soil acidity consists of acid cations, hydrogen (H⁺), aluminum (Al³⁺), and in some soils, manganese (Mn²⁺). These acids are neutralized by basic anions, carbonate (CO₃²⁻), hydroxyl (OH⁻), and oxide (O²⁻) provided by materials like agricultural, hydrated/slaked, and quick/burnt limes, respectively. Agricultural (ag) lime, consisting of different proportions of calcium and magnesium carbonates and crushed/ground to smaller particle sizes to speed acidity correction, is the material most often used to correct soil acidity in crop production fields. Rates of ag lime are found from measurements of acidity in your soil sample.

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SMALL RUMINANTS

Winter Shelter for Small Ruminants

Source: Emily Clement; KY State University Animal Science Extension Associate

While a dense tree line can provide goats and sheep protection from the sun and rain in warmer months, it is not adequate shelter for the winter, in our area. Healthy adult goats and sheep are able to maintain a constant body temperature throughout the cold months as long as good nutrients are available and shelter is provided for cover from the inclement elements. Sheltering needs will vary from one herd to the next, due to the type and breed of the animals present. Though fiber, meat, and dairy animals may have slightly different housing needs; they all need shelter from the cold, wind, and wetness of winter. It must be easily accessible for you to manage daily maintenance checks, clean bedding, and handle the water and feed needs of the animals, if not feeding and watering outside of the shelter.

Winter shelter does not need to be elaborate, by any means. A three or four sided structure, with a roof of some sort, is sufficient as long as it faces away from the prevailing wind and is easily accessible to the animals, throughout the day. A variety of shelter structures options are commercially available, as well as, modest plans for do-it yourself can be found, online. Some designs are portable and on sleds, easily hooked up to and pulled with a utility vehicle. Sleds aid in moving the shelter from field to field, or to a different location, reducing the wear and tear upon the land. The shelter needs to be clean, dry, and as draft free as possible. Adding insulation, in the form of foam and fiberglass, is not recommended. Tarps and/or ply wood can reduce drafts, without much additional expense. While the need to make shelters as draft-free as possible

exists, so does the need to ventilate. Decreased ventilation as a result of over insulation can wreak havoc on the health of the animals we intended to be protected.

[READ MORE....](#)

BEEF



IN-PERSON

Backgrounding/Stocker Profitability Conference

UK Agricultural Economics is partnering with the Kentucky Beef Network to offer a Backgrounder/Stocker Profitability Conference. This conference is funded by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund through the Kentucky Beef Network.

TOPICS

- Understanding the current market environment
- Cost of gain vs value of gain
- Stocker and backgrounding budget scenarios
- Key marketing concepts for margin operations
- Tax and financial management of margin operations
- Livestock Risk Protection Insurance

Registration is \$15/person, RSVP deadline is November 9th. Please RSVP to the Warren County Extension Office at 270-842-1681.

**WHEN: Wednesday, Nov. 16th
9:30 AM - 2:00 PM, lunch provided**

**WHERE: Warren County Extension Office
5162 Russellville Road
Bowling Green, KY 42101**



Kenny Burdine



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KBN
KENTUCKY BEEF NETWORK



KADF
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FORAGES

Consider Pasture, Rangeland, and Forage Insurance as a Risk Management Tool

Source: Dr. Kenny Burdine, UK Livestock Economist

The most recent drought monitor, released on October 27th, shows the majority of the United States dealing with drought or abnormally dry conditions. While I hope some of those regions received some much needed rain recently, I do think this presents an opportunity to discuss Pasture, Rangeland, and Forage (PRF) Insurance. PRF insurance provides an opportunity for producers to purchase rainfall coverage for perennial forages used for pasture and / or hay production.



PRF is a Single-Peril Index Insurance Product

Producers first need to understand that indemnities from PRF are not based on rainfall at their farm, but rather on actual and historical rainfall for a 0.25 degree latitude by 0.25 degree longitude grid, where their farm is located. Daily rainfall for each grid is collected through NOAA weather stations and used by the program. Certainly, there should be a correlation between rainfall amounts for a given grid and farms located on those grids, but variability will

exist. This variability creates a type of “basis” risk that isn’t that different than an insurance product like Livestock Risk Protection Insurance, which pays based on changes in the CME® Feeder Cattle Index, rather than local prices. It is also important to understand that PRF insurance does not protect against extremely high rainfall levels, or any other challenge that might impact forage production. It simply provides coverage for less than normal rainfall levels over 2 month periods during the year.

The Premium Subsidy for PRF is Significant

The premium subsidy levels for LRP depend on the level of coverage that is selected, but exceed 50% in all cases. The USDA Risk Management Agency (USDA-RMA) has intended for this to be relatively affordable so that farmers will be more likely to utilize it. While indemnities may not be received in a given year, the subsidy levels suggest that indemnities should exceed premium levels over a large number of years. Given this, producers may want to consider scaling the coverage upward to increase the base value per acre they are insuring. Base values per acre can be increased by up to 150% by increasing the productivity factor.

Multiple Approaches are Possible for Covered Months

Finally, I think it is important that producers give some thought to the months they want to cover. Producers must select coverage in a minimum of two, two-month periods and can place no more than 60% of their coverage value in any single two-month interval. A month also may not be double-covered. For example, one cannot cover the June-July interval and the July-August interval, because [July] is double-covered. However, one could put up to 60% of the value in a two month interval that included [July].



A logical approach would be to cover months in which rainfall and forage productivity are of the most concern. For example, someone may choose to cover June-July and August-September, if they are concerned about the summer months. A producer who is highly dependent on fall pasture growth to stockpile forage may choose to stretch coverage into the fall months. Producers should also discuss this with their insurance agent as they are likely to have valuable insights as well. Most importantly, producers should give this some thought and be deliberate about this decision.

While no insurance product is perfect, PRF insurance does provide producers with a relatively inexpensive opportunity to get some protection against less than normal rainfall levels. Producers have until December 1st to sign up for coverage for the 2023 calendar year, so the time is right to be thinking about it. In addition to talking with your insurance agent, a great deal of information can be found on the PRF page of the USDA-RMA website [here](#).

PR-815



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2022 Kentucky Hybrid Corn Performance Test

Richard C. Kenner, Philip Shine, Dalton Mertz, and Chad Lee, Plant and Soil Sciences

The objective of the Kentucky Hybrid Corn Performance Test is to provide relative performance estimates of hybrid seed corn sold in Kentucky. The test attempts to treat every hybrid similarly in an unbiased manner. Agronomic practices that meet or exceed university guidelines are implemented at each location.

Presentation of Data

Complete 2022 data is presented for the tests across all locations and tests at each location. Two- and three-year averages for yield are included in each of the single location tables. Tables that include data over multiple years and/or from multiple locations provide a better indication of hybrid performance. If individual location data is used, it should be used in combination with a multiple location average. The multiple location tables present better estimates of hybrid yield ability than data gathered at a single location in one year.

Comparisons between yields and other characteristics of any two or more hybrids should be made only with data from one table at a time. Hybrids are grouped into Early, Medium, Late, and Conventional tests based on relative maturity or trait characteristics. Hybrids that are likely to yield as high as the highest yielding hybrid, based on statistical evaluation, are shaded gray. See Hybrid Comparisons and Experimental Design and Mean Comparisons sections for more detail.

Testing Procedure

Selection of Hybrids

The hybrids submitted for testing are those most likely to be available for sale in 2023. Representatives from seed companies select and nominate their own hybrids. They provide the seed listed in Table 1 and identify the maturity and/or seed coat color.

Location of Tests

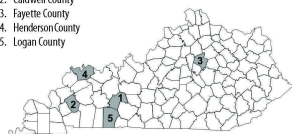
The map on Page 1 shows the test locations. The test sites were selected to represent different agro-climatic areas of Kentucky where corn is a major commodity. There were seven total tests from seven locations across the state. Included in these seven tests were two irrigated tests in Henderson and Fulton Counties. They were under center pivot irrigation.

Seasonal Notes

Planting was delayed in the spring due to rainy weather, which led to later harvests, as well. Fulton and Breckinridge Counties were lost due to environmental factors. Please make note of the large differences in planting dates. Logan County Conventional test was excluded due to very high variability that led to an extraordinarily high CV. Because of the dry weather surrounding much of the state this year, it is hard to compare

Figure 1. 2022 Kentucky Hybrid Corn Performance Test locations.

1. Butler County
2. Caldwell County
3. Fayette County
4. Henderson County
5. Logan County



hybrids. Please look to the multiple year data for better comparisons when choosing hybrids.

Cultural Practices

Corn seed was planted no-till into soybean stubble at four locations, and into tilled fields at the other two. Fertilizer was applied in accordance with each individual farmer's practices. All test areas were treated with herbicides supplemented by post emergence herbicide when necessary.

Experimental Design and Mean Comparisons

Each hybrid was grown in three replications at each location to sample uncontrollable variability within the field. Yields presented in the tables are averages of three replications at the test site; 2-year and 3-year means are averages of six and nine replications, respectively. A randomized complete block design (RCBD) was used for each maturity group test at each location.

These tests are designed to predict relative yield ability. In these tests, we are most interested in how Hybrid A yields relative to Hybrid B. Slight differences in yield ability can occur as a result of variability in the field. The least significant difference (LSD) is used to account for that variability and to help determine significant differences between hybrid performances.

Consider the following example:

Hybrid	Yield
A	165
B	155
C	140
LSD (0.10)	12

The yield difference between Hybrid A and Hybrid B is 10 bu/acre (165 – 155 = 10). The difference is less than the LSD (12 bu/acre). Based on the LSD, the yield difference between hybrids A and B is not significant, meaning that we would expect hybrids A and B to have the same yield capability the next season. However the yield difference between hybrids A and C

Click [here](#) for a directory of all our publications.

CONSERVATION CORNER

Cost Share Programs

Be sure to visit the Woodford County Conservation District [website](#) for more information on other cost share programs, such as the cover crop programs, state cost share, or the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

Woodford County Dead Animal Removal Program

Approved Dead Animal Removal Businesses

<p>Wright of Way Dead Animal Removal Midway, KY - 859-509-2127</p> <p>Bluegrass Recycling Winchester, KY - 888-744-1186</p> <p>UK Veterinary Diagnostic Lab; Lexington, KY - Cost Share only for UK disposal fee and only if farmer transports animal to the lab.</p>	<p>Countryside Industries Lexington, KY - 859-299-0004</p> <p>Conboy Horse Hearse Lexington, KY - 859-221-6998</p>
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Program Guidelines

- Farmers can use any of the above approved Woodford County pickup businesses and receive up to **\$75** in cost share for your pickup
- Farmers must pay the pickup business **IN FULL** at the time of pickup and then turn their receipt in to the Woodford County Conservation District
- A farmer will be reimbursed 30 – 60 days after turning in a receipt
- Cost share for pickup of farm livestock and horses from Woodford County farms only
- This year's program will start July 1, 2017 and end June 30, 2018 or until funds are depleted (No Wildlife for Cost Share)

Turn Your Receipts Into

Woodford County Conservation District
180 Beasley Road
Versailles, KY 40383

Funding Provided By

Woodford County Fiscal Court
Woodford County Conservation District
Woodford Ag Development Board

Shared-Use Equipment Rental

With the optimum time for seeding cool-season grasses almost upon us in September, the Woodford County Conservation District has several no-till drills for producers to rent across the county. Be sure to check out some new equipment and where you can find them!

Equipment	Location
Haybuster 10 ft no-till drill	Agriculture Resource Building
Haybuster 10 ft no-till drill	Versailles Southern States
Haybuster 7 ft no-till drill	Agriculture Resource Building
Great Plains 7 ft no-till drills (2)	Versailles Southern States
Pull-behind ag lime spreader	Agriculture Resource Building
In-line hay wrappers (2)	Woodford Feed Company
Pull-behind post driver	Agriculture Resource Building

FEATURED RECIPE

Turkey Stew



This hearty stew of turkey, potatoes, and vegetables will warm up a cold winter night. You can replace the cooked turkey with cooked chicken.

Makes 4 servings.

Ingredients

2 teaspoons vegetable oil

1/2 cup onion (chopped)

1 garlic clove (finely chopped, or 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder)

4 carrot (chopped)

2 celery stalk (chopped)

2 potatoes (chopped)

1 can tomatoes, diced

2 cups water

2 cups turkey (cooked, chopped)

salt and pepper (optional, to taste)

Italian seasoning or oregano, basil or thyme (to taste, optional)

Directions

1. Wash hands with soap and water.
2. Heat oil in medium saucepan. Add onion, garlic, carrots and celery and stir for 2 minutes.
3. Add potatoes, tomatoes, and water to pan. Bring to a boil, then lower heat and simmer 30 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Add turkey and cook another five minutes or until heated.
4. Season to taste before serving. Refrigerate leftovers.

