

The Old Farmhand: Part Two

February 2023



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

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

A Note from Jessica

I hope the new year is treating everyone well so far! We are slowly getting closer to the Spring season and I am looking forward to warmer weather and greener grass, as I'm sure many of you are as well. Please continue to call me for sampling hay as you continue to feed the rest of the winter. Also, don't forget that now is the time to prepare for reseeding some of those thinner pastures or hay ground. February and March is one of the suggested times for seeding a lot of the grasses as well as clover. If you have questions, feel free to reach out to me.

Please look over this newsletter closely as there are several classes and opportunities coming up that you don't want to miss! Many of the class options are CAIP eligible, so plan now to attend some classes if you would like to apply for the CAIP program that will come available later this year.

As always, if you have class suggestions or ideas please don't hesitate to reach out to me! Enjoy!

Help us update our system!

We appreciate everyone that receives the Old Farm Hand: Part II but we also realize that circumstances come up or change and you may not be as interested as you once were in this newsletter. If you no longer want to receive this newsletter, please send me an email at jessica.barnes2@uky.edu or call 859-234-5510 with the name and address that appears on your envelope when you receive the letter.

If you would rather receive an email copy of the newsletter instead of paper copy, please let us know that too by utilizing the above avenues. Thank you all for your support and please help us to update our system as we begin a new year!



Annual Tobacco GAP Training

The Annual Regional Tobacco GAP Training will take place in person at the Harrison County Extension Office on **February 28 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm**. If you will be marketing tobacco for the 2023 season, then you will need to attend an annual training in order to update your GAP card. If the training here in Harrison County does not fit your schedule, you can find other opportunities at gapconnections.com under the "What We Do" tab and "Annual Grower Training".

Remember to **bring your GAP card with you** the night of the training so that your card can be scanned and your training recorded. If you are a new grower, we will need to know your basic information in order to have a card issued to you.

Please RSVP at 859-234-5510 if you plan to attend the meeting so we have an accurate count for the meal that will be provided. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to me.



Conservation Corner



Scholarships Available!

The Harrison County Conservation District offers a \$1,000 scholarship to residents of Harrison County who are graduating or have graduated from one of the following: Harrison County High School, a Harrison County Private School, or a Harrison County Home School Program. We also LOVE to share information about other available scholarships. Visit the websites below to get more information about our scholarship as well as those offered through the Ky Assoc. of Conservation Districts, and Harrison County Farm Bureau Federation!
www.harrisoncountyconservationdistrict.com
<https://kyconservation.com/scholarship-opportunities>
<https://www.kyfb.com/federation/programs/youth-development/>

White Goods Collection

Dates have not been announced yet, but save your white goods (i.e., washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, stoves, etc). The HC Conservation District sponsors the White Goods Cleanup Program during the Harrison County Spring Clean Up Days. Receive \$10 per item, limit of 2 white goods per household!

Save the Date!

April 28, 2023 – H.C. Conservation District Annual Awards Banquet, at the Harrison County Fairgrounds – McCauley Building. Free Meal! More info to come.

If you are interested in applying for any conservation cost-share programs, please call our office at 859-234-5876 ext 3. Or feel free to send an email to Kayleigh.evans@ky.nacdnet.net or paul.wilson@ky.nacdnet.net. Check our website for occasional program updates at www.harrisoncountyconservationdistrict.com and like us on Facebook!

Private Pesticide Applicator Training & Certification

There will be a Private Pesticide Applicator training at the Harrison County Extension Office on **February 20, 2023** in the small classroom. There will be two sessions that day, one at **10:00am** and another at **6:00pm**. If your pesticide card is expired or you need a new certification then you only need to attend one of the sessions. Please call 859-234-5510 ahead of time to sign up for the class so we are sure to have enough materials available to you.



Thank you to everyone who came out to the Harrison County Beef Cattle Association Annual Meeting. We had a great turnout with 143 in attendance. Dr. Ryan Quarles, Commissioner of Agriculture was our speaker and did a wonderful job updating us on the state of KY Agriculture.

Frost Seeding: To Do or Not To Do?

Every year, I am asked if frost seeding clover into hay and pasture fields can be done successfully and if it is worth it. With a little bit of planning and attention to detail, frost seeding clover can definitely be successful and improve the quality of forage by adding a legume. Listed below are a few steps that we can take that will help to ensure that our frost seeding's are successful: (adapted from Dr. Chris Teutsch)

Control Broadleaf Weeds

This is best accomplished by controlling weeds the season prior to renovation. If left uncontrolled, weeds can and will out compete the newly seeded clover, causing a less than desirable result.

Soil Test and Adjust Fertility

In order for pasture or hay renovation to be successful proper soil fertility is required. Soil tests can be done through our office for free and can help to ensure your fields have the proper fertility needed to be successful. Lime should be applied six months prior to renovation, if possible.

Suppress Sod and Decrease Residue—Very IMPORTANT and probably the #1 reason for failed emergence!

The existing sod MUST be suppressed and plant residue REDUCED PRIOR to seeding. The reduction in plant residue facilitates good soil-seed contact. This can be accomplished by hard grazing in late fall and early winter or by clipping the existing forage closely. Too much cover or residue will prevent the seed from getting good soil-seed contact.

Ensure Good Soil-Seed Contact

Regardless of what seeding method is chosen, good soil-seed contact is REQUIRED for seed germination and emergence. Bare soil must be present for frost seeding to be successful.

Seed on Proper Date

Frost seeding legumes back into pastures is best accomplished in late winter to early spring (between February 1 and March 10). Frost seeding is accomplished by simply broadcasting the seed on the soil surface and allowing the freezing and thawing cycles to incorporate the seed into the soil. The earlier in that window the better to allow for more freezing-thawing cycles to get the seed into the soil. After March 1, drilling legumes into pastures with a no-till seeder is recommended since there may not be enough freezing and thawing cycles to adequately incorporate seed. Prior planning and preparation are important so that seeding can be done in a timely manner.

Use High-Quality Seed of an Adapted Species

Use either certified or proprietary seed to ensure high germination, seed genetics, and low noxious weed content. In Kentucky, a good mixture for renovating is to incorporate 6-8 lbs red clover, or 1-2 lbs of ladino white clover. In low pH and fertility soils, the addition of 10-15 lbs of annual lespedeza per acre can improve soils. In general, ladino white clovers would be a better option for pastures as they tolerate grazing much better than red clover does, and red clover would be better suited in hay fields as they are generally higher yield producers. Either way incorporating red clover or ladino white clovers into hay or pasture fields will increase your forage quality.

Use correct seeding rate

Calibrate your seeder prior to planting (see instructions on calibrating forage seeding equipment below). Seeding at too high of a rate needlessly results in higher seed costs. On the other hand, seeding at too low a rate results in weak stands and lower productivity.



If you have any questions about frost seeding or would like more information please feel free to reach out to me at 859-234-5510 or at jessica.barnes2@uky.edu.

Homesteading Series



**CAIP
ELIGIBLE
COURSE**

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

Fill your freezer with the other white meat! Learn how to raise rabbits for meat on your homestead, farm, or even in your backyard.

**October 4
6:00pm**

Meat Canning

Discover how to can and store the meat you produce to feed your family all year round.

**November 1
6:00pm**

Poultry Production for Meat

Purchasing, housing, feeding, maintenance, tips/tricks and more to fill your freezer with homegrown poultry.

**December 6
6:00pm**

Beekeeping

Find out what you need to start and care your own apiary for honey production and pollination.

**February 7
6:00pm**

Gardening for the Homestead

Fill your kitchen with a homegrown bounty of fruits and vegetables. Discover the how-to's 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

Soil Testing

If you haven't already it is time to start taking soil samples for the 2023 growing season. By submitting your soil tests early, you can be sure to have your results back before planting time. Drop by the office to pick up a soil probe and bags for all your sampling needs! Soil testing is FREE through the Harrison County Extension Office!

**Dead Animal Removal
Country Side Industries
859-421-1867**

Join us for the 16th annual

Pastures Please!!

Monday, February 6th, 5:30 – 8:00 pm



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



Fayette County Extension Office

1140 Harry Sykes Way, Lexington
Hosted by the UK Cooperative Extension
and UK Ag. Equine Programs

 College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Equine Programs

Program

- 5:30 Refreshments
- 6:00 Pasture Recovery and Rejuvenation, Dr. Ray Smith
- 6:30 Meeting Your Equipment Needs, Dr. Morgan Hayes
- 7:00 Weed Control after a Drought, Dr. Bill Witt



RSVP online using the
QR code or call:
859-257-5582

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KDA Hay Contest
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thinning alfalfa
stands

ALFALFA &

STORED FORAGE CONFERENCE

**HAY PRODUCTION, MARKETING
AND MECHANIZATION**



**FEB.
21
8AM**
CENTRAL TIME

*I will be taking a van from the Harrison County
Extension Office to Pastures Please!! And the Al-
falfa Conference, if you are interested in riding
with me, please call 859-234-5510.*



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
10:30 & 5:30

HOME FRUIT PRODUCTION

Harrison County Extension Office

Learn the basics about growing fruit at
home for your family - strawberries,
brambles, grapes and tree fruit

Call the office to Register 859-234-5510

CAVE CITY CONVENTION CENTER

Click Here to
Register Today!



Kentucky
Forage and
Grassland
Council

2023 CENTRAL KENTUCKY GRAIN PRODUCERS SEMINAR

Monday, February 27, 2023 ~ 9:00 am — 12:00 pm

Location: Fayette County Extension Office

1140 Harry Sykes Way, Lexington, KY

PLEASE RSVP: (859) 257-5582

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED



Specialists in Farm & Turf Equipment Since 1972



Dr. Chad Lee

Grain Crops Specialist

Dr. Jordan Shockley

Agriculture Economics

Dr. Steve Isaacs

Agriculture Economics



For more information and to RSVP, contact Fayette County Extension Office:

Beau Neal

(859) 257-5582

beau.neal@uky.edu



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Cooperative Extension Service

This meeting qualifies for CAIP!

Cooperative Extension Service
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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

IN-PERSON

Backgrounding/Stocker Profitability Conference



UK Agricultural Economics is partnering with the Kentucky Beef Network to offer a Backgrounding/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 February 20th. Please RSVP to the Fayette County Extension Office at (859) 257-5582 or beau.neal@uky.edu.

**WHEN: Friday - February 24, 2023
9:30 AM - 2:30 PM -lunch provided**

**WHERE: Fayette County Extension Office
1140 Harry Sykes Way
Lexington, KY 40504**



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



Department of Agricultural Economics
400 Charles E. Barnhart Building
Lexington, KY 40546-0276
(859) 257-5762 | aagecon.ca.uky.edu



Jonathan Shepherd



Greg Hallich



Kerry Burdine

I will be taking a van from the Harrison County Extension Office to both of these events. If interested in riding, please call the office at 859-234-5510.