You Can Control Flies on Cattle
Warmer weather brings more pest problems. Horn flies and face flies are key pests of Kentucky cattle. Both species breed in fresh manure piles, but they present different threats and management problems. Fortunately, you have a variety of fly control options. Horn flies are blood feeders. They remain on animals most of the time, taking 20 to 30 small blood meals per day.

More than 100 flies along the sides and backs of each animal every day during the fly season can mean 12 to 15 pounds lower weaning weights for spring calves and poor gains for older animals. The close association between the horn fly and the animal, however, does make many control methods quite effective.

On the other hand, face flies spend about 90 percent of their time resting and they only visit animals to feed on liquids around the eyes and face.

This makes some fly control methods more effective than others because face flies visit hard-to-treat areas for very short time periods.

One control option is insecticide-impregnated cattle ear tags which release small amounts of an insecticide distributed over the animal during grooming or rubbing. In general, ear tags provide excellent, long-term control of horn flies and some brands also reduce face fly numbers.
Another advantage is that animals only have to be handled once. Read the label before you use insecticide ear tags. All tags are labeled for beef cattle while only those with certain active ingredients are approved for use on lactating dairy cattle.

For fly control, it is best to tag animals after horn fly numbers reach 50 or more per side. This reduces the chances of developing resistance to the active ingredients that are being used. Normally, tags provide 12 to 15 weeks of fly control. Tagging too early in the season can mean the tags are not providing control in the fall that will help to control the overwintering population.

Another method of control is pour-on products. These are ready-to-use formulations that are applied to animals in measured doses based upon body weight. Horn flies are killed as they land on treated areas of the animal and pick up the insecticide through their body.

Typically, pour-ons provide about four weeks of fly reduction so you must reapply at intervals or use in combination with other methods. The length of control will vary with weather and other factors, so treat again when fly numbers build back up to about 100 per side but no sooner than the label instructions allow.

Many cattle producers like to use self-application devices, such as dust bags, back rubbers, or automatic sprayers for pasture fly control. You can purchase ready-made or assemble from easily found materials. These devices can do a very effective job of horn fly control and may provide satisfactory to excellent face fly control. All require regular inspection and service to be sure they are working properly and may not be as mobile as other fly control systems.

Location is important for these fly control methods. You must put them where animals can regularly use them. The number you need will vary with herd size, pasture area and other factors. The ultimate goal is to get each animal regularly treated.

Horn flies and face flies breed in cattle droppings in pastures. Animals consuming an insecticide that passes through the manure can make it toxic. Mineral blocks or loose supplements are available which contain fly control products. This method is only part of a total fly-control program because horn flies and face flies move in from nearby herds. Supplemental control though the use of dust bags or backrubbers is needed to deal with these "fly-ins".

Source: Lee Townsend, UK Entomologist
KNOTT COUNTY 
FARMER’S MARKET

EVERY TUESDAY & FRIDAY BEGINNING JUNE 5

Tuesday 4:00—6:00 pm | Hindman Settlement School Outdoor Classroom
Friday 9:00 am - Noon | Knott County Extension Office

A Special Market will be Saturday, June 30th from 3:00-6:00 pm at the Knott County Fair

Farmer’s Market is open to any local agriculture items or Value Added agriculture commodities.

For more information, call 606-785-5329

Open to the public to buy, sell, or trade
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 2018
6:00 PM

MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S MEETING

BREATHITT COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

BQCA TRAINING
MEAL WILL BE PROVIDED
Knott County Fair

HONEY CONTEST

All entries must be submitted in Pint Jars to Knott Co. Extension Office (149 Parks Branch Rd, Hindman, KY) by Noon on Thursday June 28, 2018

For more information contact
Chad Conway, Knott Co. Ext. Agent for Ag & Natural Resources
606-785-5329

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. Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

Important Dates to Remember

June 5 Farmer's Market Opens
June 7 Quicksand UK Ag Alumni Meeting - Wolfe County
June 28 - Knott County Fair entries due to the Extension office by Noon
June 28-30 Knott County Fair @Sportsplex
Knott County Fair

RABBIT SHOW

Saturday, June 30, 2018
Registration at 1:00 pm ~ Show at 1:30 pm
Knott County Sportsplex ~ Leburn, KY

Knott County Open Youth Rabbit Show
Ages: 4 ~ 18
Rabbits can be Any Type or Breed
All Rabbits MUST BE brought to show in a pet carrier!
Ribbons will be given to all exhibitors in each class.

For more information contact
Chad Conway, Knott Co. Extension Agent for Ag & Natural Resources
(606) 785-5329

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Largest Tomato & Cabbage

All entries must be submitted to
Knott Co. Extension Office
(149 Parks Branch Rd, Hindman, KY)
by Noon on Thursday, June 28, 2016

For more information contact
Chad Conway, Knott Co. Ext. Agent for Ag & Natural Resources
606-785-5329

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**Take control of weeds in the vegetable garden**  
Source: John Strang, extension horticulture specialist

Home gardeners look forward to that first ripe tomato or ear of corn they pick from their carefully tended gardens. But after some vigorous gardening on a hot, humid day, you may wonder if it is all worth it.

Weeds compete with crops for water, nutrients and sunlight. Some weeds, like quackgrass, can chemically inhibit vegetable plant growth. Others host insect pests and disease pathogens. All of these result in fewer fresh vegetables for your table. There are some preventive practices that effectively combat weeds.

Frequent hoeing or rototilling on a weekly basis helps eliminate weeds when they are small and easily removed.

If you plant rows a little closer, vegetable crops provide more shade and that also helps to reduce weed pressure. After you harvest a crop, plant another in its place to continue using the space.

Mulching works very well in the home garden. Use organic material such as grass clippings, leaves or straw to eliminate weed growth and build up organic matter to make the soil more fertile and easier to work. Do not use grass clippings from a lawn that was treated recently with a herbicide. Treated clippings can cause vegetable plant twisting and can even kill some sensitive crops. Be careful about the kind of organic material you use. Hay can introduce a considerable load of weed seeds into your garden.

Black plastic mulch is beneficial to certain vegetables including tomatoes, eggplants, peppers and vine crops. In addition to shading out and eliminating weeds, plastic mulches conserve moisture and promote early crop growth by helping heat up the soil in spring. Landscape fabric has the added advantage of being water permeable and can be used for multiple years; although it is more expensive than black plastic. Most importantly, do everything possible to keep garden weeds from going to seed. One red root pigweed plant can produce 100,000 seeds that can continue to germinate over the next 15 to 20 years.

For more timely gardening tips, contact the Knott County Extension office.
Spring Omelet Bake

Makes 4 servings  •  Serving size: 1 cup

INGREDIENTS:
1 tablespoon olive or vegetable oil
12 spears asparagus, trimmed and cut into 2-inch pieces
⅓ cup red onion, diced
⅔ cup tomatoes, diced
8 eggs
¼ cup low-fat or skim milk
⅓ cup grated Parmesan cheese, optional

DIRECTIONS:
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the asparagus, onion, and tomatoes; cook and stir until the asparagus is tender, about 4 minutes. Remove from heat and cool.
3. Whisk together the eggs and milk in a small bowl; pour over the sautéed vegetables and stir the mixture briefly. Add Parmesan cheese, if desired.
4. Carefully pour the mixture into a greased 8 x 8 casserole dish. Bake in oven until firm, about 20 minutes.

OPTION:
Other vegetables can be substituted for the asparagus, red onion, and tomatoes. Other cheeses may be substituted for Parmesan.

NUTRITION FACTS PER SERVING:
270 calories; 16 g total fat; 5 g saturated fat; 0 g trans fat; 375 mg cholesterol; 400 mg sodium; 10 g carbohydrate; 2 g fiber; 19 g protein; 20% Daily Value of vitamin A; 20% Daily Value of vitamin C; 25% Daily Value of calcium; 15% Daily Value of iron