



**Knott Co Extension**  
149 Parks Br | PO Box 462  
Hindman, KY 41822  
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Chad Conway, Knott Co CEA/ANR  
*Chad Conway*

## Prepare Your Garden for April Showers

There is no surer sign of spring than blooming gardens and flowerbeds, but what happens behind the scenes to get them to that point? Much of the work goes in before you even break the soil. Before you dig in, it's important to choose the proper site, plan what you will be growing, and prepare the soil to yield the best possible results. Temperature is a large factor for optimal garden growth, so avoid low areas and spots bounded on the lower side by a solid fence or dense trees. These tend to create cooler temperatures longer into the spring, unlike the fast-warming tendencies of southern or southeastern exposure.

Convenience is key, so make sure to choose a site accessible to your house with enough access to water. Finding a balance between watering your plants and drowning them is vital. Choose a well-drained area, one that typically does not hold water for a day or more after rainfall. If poorly drained soil is dominant in your area, consider a raised bed garden. Once you select a site, it's important to have a plan for its layout. Have a general idea of what vegetables or plants you wish to grow in the garden.

Some, like tomatoes, peppers, or broccoli, may be available as transplants from local stores, but others will require purchasing seeds. Every family has different dietary wants and needs, so knowing how much of each vegetable to grow is important. Your family may be satisfied with two plants of beans, but you may need 12 tomato plants. Knowing your requirements when planning your site is helpful.

The size of your garden is also a factor; in smaller areas, vegetables like peppers, tomatoes, and cucumbers produce well, but others may not. You are bound to the ground, so plan accordingly. It is important to remember that the soil nurtures the plants, so you need to nurture the soil. Effective gardens are not formed naturally; they take a great deal of alteration to create. If there is surface grass on the site, remove it, turn it over with a shovel, or plow the area several weeks before planting.

Organic matter goes a long way in helping the fertility of the soil. Add 1-2 inches of compost, composted manure, peat moss, humus or other organic matter to the surface of the soil, working to a depth of 6-10 inches.

### Cooperative Extension Service

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

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# UPCOMING DATES

## FEBRUARY

- 6th KY Forest Health Conference, Kroger Field. 8:30am-3pm
- 11th Knott Co Beekeepers Meeting, Knott CES, 6 pm
- 12th-15th National Farm Machinery Show, Louisville, KY
- 20th Grow Appalachia Meeting - Settlement School 5:30 pm
- 21st-22nd Eastern KY Farmer Conference, London, KY
- 26th 1st Annual Hay Auction, Robinson Center, 5:00 pm
- 27th Gardening in Small Spaces, Knott CES, 6pm

## MARCH

- 5th Berry Plant Orders Due - Last day to order berry plants
- 6th Knott Ag Development Council, Knott CES, 5:30
- 11th Apple & Pear Pruning & Grafting Workshop- Knott CES, 1pm & 6pm
- 13th Poultry Workshop, Floyd CES, 6 pm
- 20th Bull Soundness Exams - Robinson Center, 10:00 am
- 25th Sheep & Goat Meeting and Lamb Dinner - Floyd CES, 5:30 pm

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



## BREEDING SOUNDNESS EXAMS

GET YOUR BULL CHECKED BEFORE BREEDING SEASON




Robinson Center - JACKSON

Dr. LW Beckley

FREE



March 20, 2025

10:00AM - 5:00PM



CALL TO SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT

606-785-5329



PROTECT YOUR CALF CROP

\$125/Bull Savings

Cooperative Extension Service | MARTIN GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Educational programs of Kentucky State University are available to all persons regardless of race or color. We are an equal opportunity institution. For more information, contact the Office of Institutional Equity, 1000 University Blvd., Room 1000, Lexington, KY 40506.



**KNOTT COUNTY EXTENSION**

**UK** Cooperative  
Extension Service

# GARDENING *Small Space*

**THURSDAY ~ FEBRUARY 27TH**  
**6:00 PM - KNOTT CO EXTENSION ~ MAIN BUILDING**

*Receive Lettuce  
Seeds & Onion  
Sets with  
completion of  
workshop.*



## TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

- ✔ Limited Space / Less Maintenance
- ✔ Easier Wildlife Control
- ✔ Great for Limited Mobility Gardeners
- ✔ Season Extenders

*Raised bed & container gardening offers everyone the opportunity to grow something.*

**REGISTER BY:**  
**24TH**  
**FEBRUARY**

**Contact Us**

**(606) 785-5329**

**Facebook: KnottCES**

**<https://knott.ca.uky.edu/>**

**149 Parks Rd | Hindman, KY 41822**



# 2025 EASTERN KENTUCKY FARMER CONFERENCE

February 21-22 at the London Community Center

**REGISTRATION IS \$45**

<https://tinyurl.com/2025EKFC>



Join us for a two-day conference focused on a variety of farm topics including beekeeping, farm funding, cut flowers, marketing, and more!

Lodging is available at Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn Express, and Red Roof Inn.

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN  
UNTIL FEBRUARY 6TH**

**THE CONFERENCE INCLUDES:  
A VARIETY OF CONFERENCE SESSIONS  
PRE-CONFERENCE VISIT TO CORNETT FARM FRESH  
YOUTH TRACK  
20+ RESOURCE PROVIDER EXHIBITS  
LOCALLY SOURCED MEALS  
DOOR PRIZES**



## Friday, February 21

9:00 – 11:30 am	<b>Optional Pre-Conference Activity:</b> Visit to Cornett Farm Fresh		
12:00 pm	<b>Registration Opens</b>		
1:00 – 2:30 pm	<b>Marketing 101: Making Marketing Work</b> Kati Bowman	<b>Vegetable Production</b> Tim Howard, Tonya Slone, Chester Slone	<b>Disaster Preparedness and Fighting the Weather</b> Chad Conway
2:45 – 4:15 pm	<b>Advanced Marketing Masterclass: Strategy, Social Media, and Future Trends</b> Kati Bowman	<b>Seed Saving</b> Rhonella Chaffin	<b>Managing On Farm Water</b> Robert Jones and Douglas Wilson
5:00 – 6:00 PM	<b>Resource Provider Networking</b>		
6:00 – 7:30 pm	<b>Dinner, Awards, and Keynote</b> Keynote Speaker: Kristin Smith		
7:30 – 9:00 pm	<b>Networking and Entertainment</b>		

## Saturday, February 22

8:00 – 9:00 am	<b>Breakfast and Registration Opens</b>		
9:00 – 10:15 am	<b>Kentucky Farming Resources</b>	<b>Creating Your Own Niche in the Cut Flower World</b> Ruthie Sizemore	<b>Property Law, Estate Planning, and Family Land: Strategies for Preventing, Resolving, and Using Heirs' Property</b> Kevin Slovinsky and Joe Childers
10:45 am – 12:00 pm		<b>What Chefs Want: Strategies for Scaling Up</b>	<b>Business Planning and Preparing for a Grant</b> Maddie Grider and Thomas Pierce
12:00 – 1:15 pm	<b>Lunch</b> Speaker: Dale Dobson		
1:15 – 2:15 pm	<b>Lessons from the Field</b> Jann Knappage and Kevin Gurtowski	<b>High Tunnels</b> Ema-Leigh Forbes	<b>All Hands on Deck: Farmer Panel on Navigating Farm Labor</b> Ford Waterstrat, William Allen, Mark Burnett
2:45 – 3:45 pm	<b>Predator Control and Guard Animal Management for Livestock Owners</b> Patrick Angel, Lester Brashear, Stacy White	<b>Building Better Soil</b> Channing Richardson	<b>Accessible Farming</b> Mark Kidd
4:00 – 5:00 pm	<b>Feeding Strategies</b> Mac Stone	<b>Agritourism in Agroforestry</b> Joey Aloï	<b>Beekeeping</b> Kenneth Holbrook
5:00 – 5:30 pm	<b>Door Prizes</b>		



**ATTENTION  
BUYERS AND  
SELLERS**

# 1st Annual East KY HAY

**KENTUCKY**   
**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

UK MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT  
KSU COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH, AND NATURAL RESOURCES

## **AUCTION 5:00pm**

**February 26th  
at The Robinson Research Station  
130 Robinson Road  
Jackson, KY 41339**



**Accepting Hay  
February 18th-25th by appointment  
8:00am -4:30pm**

- **NO BUYERS PREMIUM**
- **10% CONSIGNMENT FEE**
- **WEIGHT AS RECEIVED**

**Call 606-666-2438  
to  
schedule your  
drop-off**

**Nutrient analysis and average  
bale weight will be listed for each  
lot prior to sale.**

**Reed Graham  
Breathitt County ANR Agent  
606-666-8812**



**Auctioneer:  
Jonathan Montgomery  
with Montgomery Auction  
Company  
606-496-6530**



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# KNOTT CO BEEKEEPERS MEETING



**TOPIC: SCOUTING FOR NECTAR IN SPRING**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH**  
**6:00 PM ~ KNOTT EXT OFFICE**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

(606) 785-5329 149 Parks Br, Hindman, KY 41822 PO Box 462, Hindman, KY 41822

[www.knott.ca.uky.edu](http://www.knott.ca.uky.edu) [facebook.com/KnottCES](https://facebook.com/KnottCES) [youtube.com/@KnottCES](https://youtube.com/@KnottCES)

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Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.

# FRUIT TREE PRUNING & GRAFTING WORKSHOP



 Cooperative  
Extension Service





**TUESDAY, MARCH 11TH**

**1:00 PM OR 6:00 PM**

**KNOTT CO EXTENSION ~ MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING MEETING ROOM**

## WORKSHOP TOPICS:


Reasons for Pruning 

Grafting Terms 

Fruit Tree Pruning 

Rootstock Selection 

Reasons for Grafting 

Young Fruit Tree Care 



Register By Calling:

**(606) 785-5329**



Each Participant will receive  
3 pieces of Rootstock for Grafting.

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accommodated  
with prior notification.

Lexington, KY 40506

# Perry County Bee School



WHEN: SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2025  
 TIME: REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:00 A.M.  
 WHERE: PERRY COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE  
 933 PERRY PARK RD, HAZARD KY 41701  
 COST: **FREE**  
 100 SEAT AVAILIABLE

*\*\*\*Deadline to register is February 28, 2025  
 Call 606-436-2044 to pre-register\*\*\**

### ***New/Beginner Track:***

- Hive Components and Beekeeping tools
- What to expect during your first year.
- What am I looking for in my hive?
- Q&A

### ***Intermediate/Advanced Track:***

- Methods of splitting hives
- Pest Control Management
- Increasing Honey Production
- Swarm Control



*An Equal Opportunity Organization.*



## POULTRY WORKSHOP



*Backyard poultry production – the basics*

### Topics:

- What to consider before starting
- Getting started
- Caring for the birds
- Food safety
- Zoonotic diseases to be aware of

**March 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm**

**Dr. Jacquie Jacob, UK Poultry Extension Project Manager**

At the Floyd County Extension Office

3490 Ky Rt 321

Prestonsburg, Ky 41653

Call the Floyd County Extension to register

606-886-2668





# Sheep & Goat

Educational Meeting and Lamb Dinner

**Tuesday, March 25, 2025**

**Floyd Co Extension Office**

3490 KY Route 321, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653.

Registration is from 5:30-6:00 pm EST. Lamb Dinner starts at 6:00 with the educational program to follow.

Round-Table discussion led by: Patrick Angel, SEKSPA; Lester Brashear, Brashear Heritage Farm; Dr. Jessie Lay DVM, UK Extension Animal Health Veterinarian.

Registration Required. Please register by calling the Floyd County Extension Office at 606-886-2668. \$10.00 per family. Your registration fee will include a delicious lamb dinner with sides and a One-Year Membership to SEKSPA

This workshop qualifies for CAIP education credits

The County Extension Offices of Floyd, Pike, Martin, Johnson, Magoffin and Knott Counties; the Southeast Kentucky Sheep Producers Association (SEKSPA); and the University of Kentucky's Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.





Knott County  
PO Box 462  
Hindman, KY 41822

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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