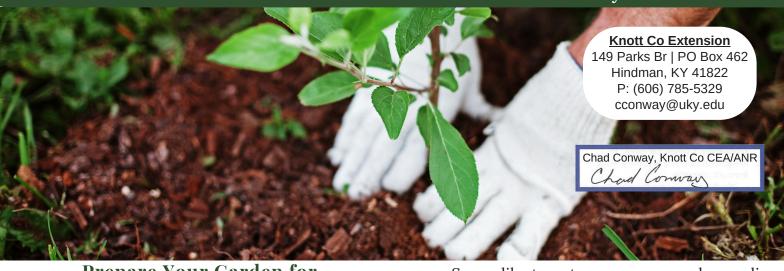
Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment University of Kentucky

Knott County Ag & Natural Resources Newsletter February 2025



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

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.





UPCOMING DATES

FEBRUARY

6th <u>KY Forest Health Conference</u>, Kroger Field. 8:30am-3pm

11th <u>Knott Co Beekeepers Meeting</u>, Knott CES, 6 pm

12th-15th National Farm Machinery Show, Louisville, KY

20th <u>Grow Appalachia Meeting</u> - Settlement School 5:30 pm

21st-22nd Eastern KY Farmer Conference, London, KY

26th <u>1st Annual Hay Auction</u>, Robinson Center, 5:00 pm

27th <u>Gardening in Small Spaces,</u> Knott CES, 6pm

MARCH

5th <u>Berry Plant Orders Due</u> - Last day to order berry plants

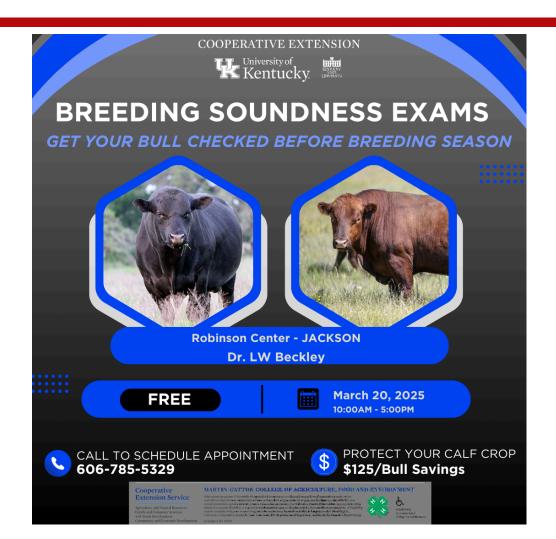
6th Knott Ag Development Council, Knott CES, 5:30

11th <u>Apple & Pear Pruning & Grafting Workshop</u>- Knott CES, 1pm & 6pm

13th <u>Poultry Workshop</u>, Floyd CES, 6 pm

20th <u>Bull Soundness Exams</u> - Robinson Center, 10:00 am

25th Sheep & Goat Meeting and Lamb Dinner - Floyd CES, 5:30 pm





KNOTT COUNTY EXTENSION



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

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: FEBRUARY

Contact Us

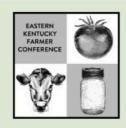
(606) 785-5329

Facebook: KnottCES

https://knott.ca.uky.edu/

149 Parks Rd | Hindman, KY 41822

An Equal Opportunity Organization



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



Saturday, February 22

8:00 - 9:00 am | Breakfast and Registration Opens

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



ATTENTION BUYERS AND SELLERS

1st Annual KENTUCKY

KSU COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH, AND NATURAL RESOURCES

East KY HAY **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

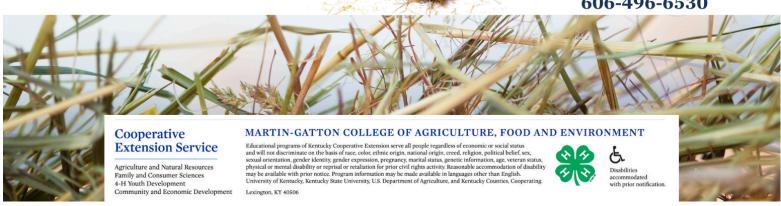
- **NO BUYERS PREMIUM**
- 10% CONSIGNMENT FEE
- WEIGHT AS RECEIVED

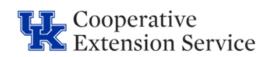
Nutrient analysis and average bale weight will be listed for each lot prior to sale.

Reed Graham Breathitt County ANR Agent 606-666-8812

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

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









TOPIC: SCOUTING FOR NECTAR IN SPRING

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

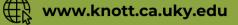






FOR MORE INFORMATION:

(C) (606) 785-5329 (O) 149 Parks Br, Hindman, KY 41822 = 三 PO Box 462, Hindman, KY 41822







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

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FRUIT TREE PRUNING & CRAFTING WORKSHOP OOOO



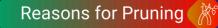




1:00 PM OR 6:00 PM

KNOTT CO EXTENSION ~ MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING MEETING ROOM





Grafting Terms



Fruit Tree Pruning

Rootstock Selection



Reasons for Grafting (-)

Young Fruit Tree Care



Each Participant will receive 3 pieces of Rootstock for Grafting.

Register By Calling: (606) 785-5329



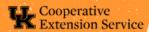
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Cooperative Extension Service Perry County Bee Schoo

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 AVALIABLE

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

An Equal Opportunity Organization.

Intermediate/Advanced Track:

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





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 13th @ 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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Please check to make sure your name and mailing address are correct.

Call 606-785-5329 to make any changes or updates.

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