

OF WHEAT & WINDROWS

BOYLE COUNTY

AGRICULTURE AND

NATURAL RESOURCES

NEWSLETTLER

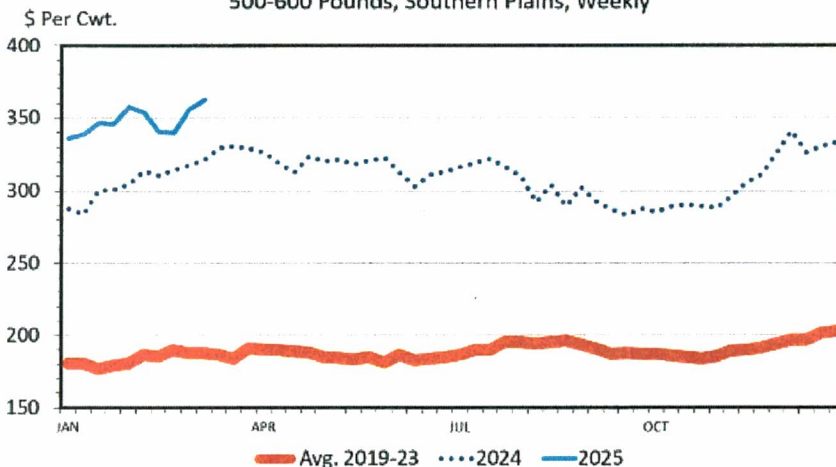
March–April 2025

Boyle County Cooperative Extension
99 Corporate Drive
Danville, KY 40422
Phone: (859) 236-4484

Don't Underestimate the Cost of Late Calving Cows

Dr. Kenny Burdine, University of Kentucky

MED. & LRG. #1 STEER CALF PRICES
500-600 Pounds, Southern Plains, Weekly



Data Source: USDA-AMS
Livestock Marketing Information Center

C.P. 54
03/10/25

Reproductive efficiency has a major impact on the profitability of a cow-calf operation. Discussions around this topic often focus on getting cows bred, which is definitely a crucial first step. Most economic research suggests either culling open cows or only retaining them in specific / unique situations. However, getting cows bred in a timely manner also has a significant impact on revenues. With spring calving underway, I thought it might be a good time to discuss the costs associated with those cows that don't calve as early as we would like them to.

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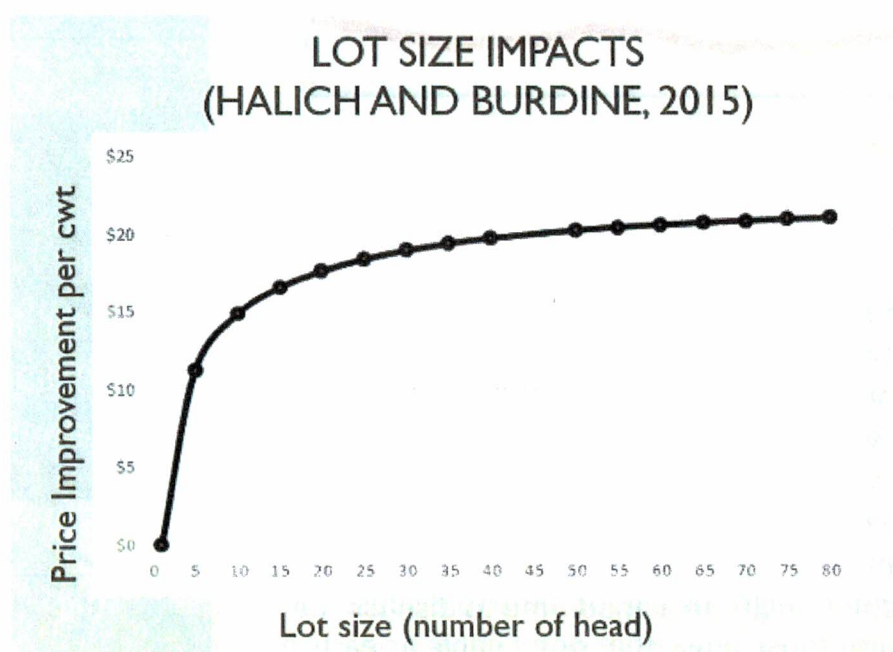
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The cost that immediately comes to mind for late calving cows is that they wean smaller calves. These lower weaning weights are primarily a function of age as calves born later in the calving season will be younger at weaning time. Given reasonable assumptions of weight gain, each cycle missed can easily result in 40-50 fewer lbs. at weaning. Needless to say, the revenue difference between cows bred during their first cycle vs those bred during the 3rd or 4th cycle can be very significant.

There is another cost of late calving cows that does not get as much attention but is also very important. In addition to those late born calves being smaller at weaning, they are also more likely to be sold in smaller groups since there are fewer of them. Smaller lot sizes are consistently associated with lower calf prices in the literature, which means these late born calves may take another hit in value beyond their lower sale weight.

The figure below was estimated from preconditioned feeder cattle sales in Kentucky and graphically shows the impact of lot size on feeder cattle prices. I show this figure in most of my Extension programs and always like to focus people's attention on the left side of the graph. Notice how much price improvement was seen simply by having calves uniform enough to sell in groups of 5-10, which is attainable even for relatively small cow-calf operations. In this dataset, a group of 5 outsold a single by \$11 per cwt and a group of 10 outsold a single by \$15 per cwt. Larger lots sizes are always preferred, but the key message is that one must manage their herds to limit the number of calves that get sold as singles or in very small groups.



March Monthly Tips

- Continue pasture renovation by no-till seeding legumes (1/4 to 1/2 inch seeding depth).
- Continue feeding hay until adequate forage exists in the pasture for grazing.
- Spring seeding of grasses should be done in early to mid-March (but fall is preferred)
- Begin smoothing and re-seeding hay feeding and heavy traffic areas.
- Graze pastures overseeded with clover to reduce competition from existing grasses; pull animals off as clover seedlings start to be grazed.
- Provide free choice high-magnesium mineral to prevent grass tetany on lush spring growth.

Photo by Dr. Jimmy Henning

BOYLE COUNTY FFA

FARMER APPRECIATION DINNER

MARCH 22, 2025 AT 6:00 PM

BOYLE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

JOIN US FOR THE BOYLE COUNTY FFA CHAPTER'S INAUGURAL FARMER APPRECIATION DINNER—FEATURING A MEAL AND RECOGNITION OF THREE FARMING FAMILIES FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO AGRICULTURE. CELEBRATE AND SUPPORT THOSE INVOLVED IN THE INDUSTRY!



Happening This Month

March

10th- Private Pesticide Applicators Training at Boyle County Cooperative Extension Office at 5:00 pm.

13th- South Central KY Tobacco Growers Meeting at Garrard County Cooperative Extension Office.

15th- Boyle County Farmers Market Annual Vendor Meeting at the Boyle County Cooperative Extension Office at 9:00 am.

17th- St. Patrick's Day

22nd- Boyle County FFA Farmer Appreciation Dinner at 6:00 pm at the Boyle County Cooperative Extension Office.

26th- KSU Beef Cattle Workshop at 6:00 pm at the Harold R. Benson Research & Demonstration Farm (1525 Mills Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601)

27th- Civic Engagement & Local Government Series: What's in it for me? How your local Government works, and how you can be involved? at 6:00 pm at the Boyle County Cooperative Extension Office.

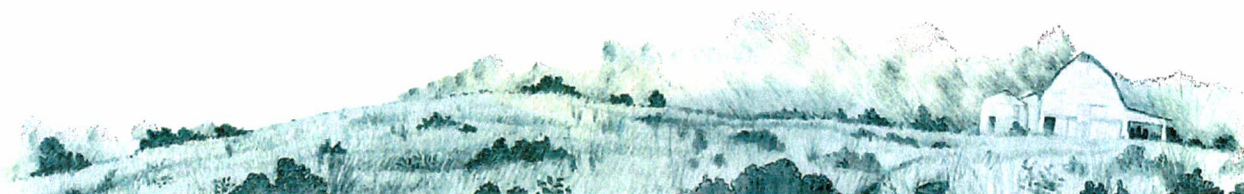
April

22nd- 2025 Kentucky Fencing School in Lewisport, KY from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm.

24th- 2025 Kentucky Fencing School in Tompkinsville, KY from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm.

24th- Civic Engagement & Local Government Series: Save It! City of Danville Utilities & Sustainability at 6:00 pm at the Boyle County Cooperative Extension Office.

29th-30th- 2025 Kentucky Beginning Grazing School at the Logan County Cooperative Extension Office. Cost \$60.00.



SHEEP & GOAT

Educational Meeting & Lamb Dinner

Monday, April 7

Registration begins at 5:30pm

Who: The County Extension Offices of Mercer, Boyle, Lincoln, Garrard, Jessamine, Woodford, Franklin, and Anderson Counties; the Southeast Kentucky Sheep Producers Association (SEKSPA); Kentucky Sheep and Wool Producers Association (KSWPA) and the University of Kentucky's Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food & Environment.

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

How: Round-Table discussion led by: Patrick Angel, SEKSPA; Harry Frederick, KSWPA and Winding Creek Farms; Dr. Jessie Lay DVM, UK Extension Animal Health Veterinarian.

This meeting qualifies for CAIP Educational requirement.

Mercer County Extension Office
1007 Lexington Road—Harrodsburg, KY

KENTUCKY  **COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**



Registration Required.

Please register by calling the
Mercer County Extension Office at
859-734-4378.

\$10.00 per family
(collected at the door)

Your registration fee will include a
delicious lamb dinner with sides and a
One-Year Membership to SEKSPA.

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 past civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodations of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English.



SOUTH CENTRAL KY

TOBACCO GROWERS

Thursday, March 13

Garrard County Extension Office

6:00pm: Meal begins—reservation required

6:30pm: Tobacco Production Update &
Disease Management

Dr. Bob Pearce, UK Tobacco Specialist

7:20pm: Tobacco GAP Certification & Update

Amy Rochkes, Gap Connection Representative

8:30pm: Closing Comments &
Announcements



ALL tobacco growers are invited and urged to attend.
This meeting qualifies for one hour commercial
pesticide applicator CEU. This program is approved for
GAP Certification and Re-Certification by all buying
companies and market locations.

KENTUCKY  **COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

1302 Stanford Road,
Lancaster, KY 40444

Make your meal reservations by noon, March 10 by calling your county office:

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Boyle—859-236-4484 | Mercer—859-734-4378 | Estill—606-723-4557 |
| Lincoln—606-365-2447 | Casey—606-787-7384 | Madison—859-623-4072 |
| Garrard—859-792-3026 | Pulaski—606-679-6361 | Rockcastle—606-256-2403 |

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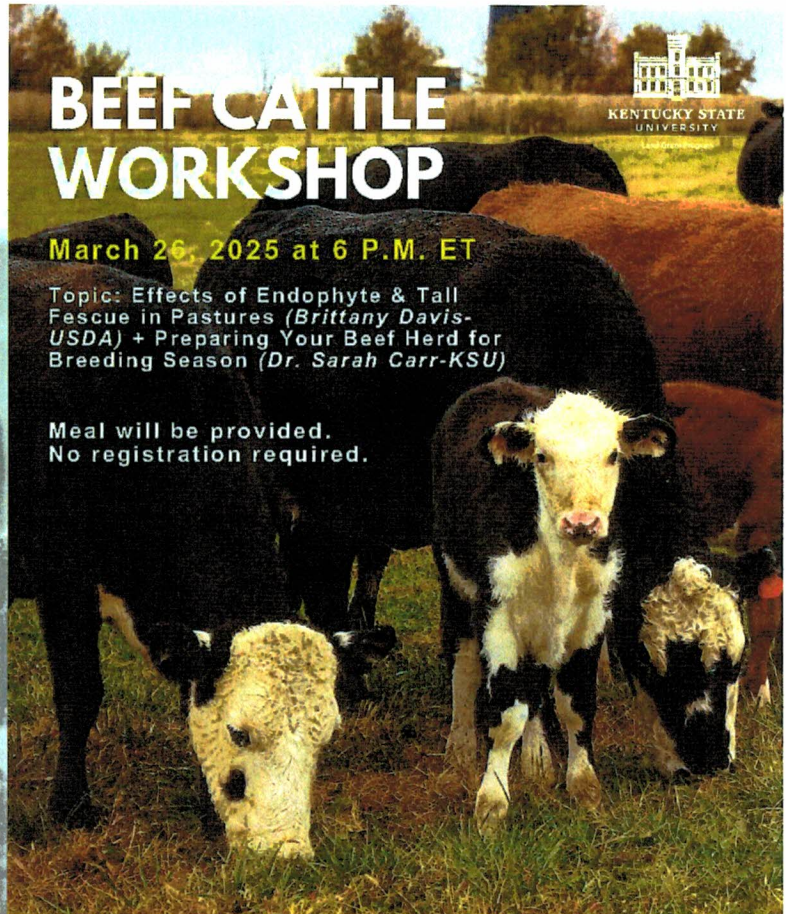
BEEF CATTLE

WORKSHOP

March 26, 2025 at 6 P.M. ET

Topic: Effects of Endophyte & Tall
Fescue in Pastures (Brittany Davis-
USDA) + Preparing Your Beef Herd for
Breeding Season (Dr. Sarah Carr-KSU)

Meal will be provided.
No registration required.



Join us in person: Harold R. Benson Research & Demonstration Farm
1525 Mills Lane, Frankfort, KY
Kentucky State University is an equal opportunity provider.

SOIL PROPERTIES WORKSHOP

APRIL 10, 2025
8:30 AM-3 PM EST

Eastern Kentucky University
Meadowbrook Farm
485 Whitt Road
Richmond, KY
40475

We will examine
three soil pits
with distinctly different
profile properties to discuss
how they will influence water
and nutrient retention and delivery

Key topics include:

- Plant available water
- Soil texture
- Nutrient profile



CCA Credits: 5.5 CEUs

For questions contact Lori Rogers
lori.rogers@uky.edu 270-365-7541 ext 21317

Pre-registration is required at
[KATSoilPropertiesRichmond2025.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/KATSoilPropertiesRichmond2025)

Cost \$105
Lunch provided



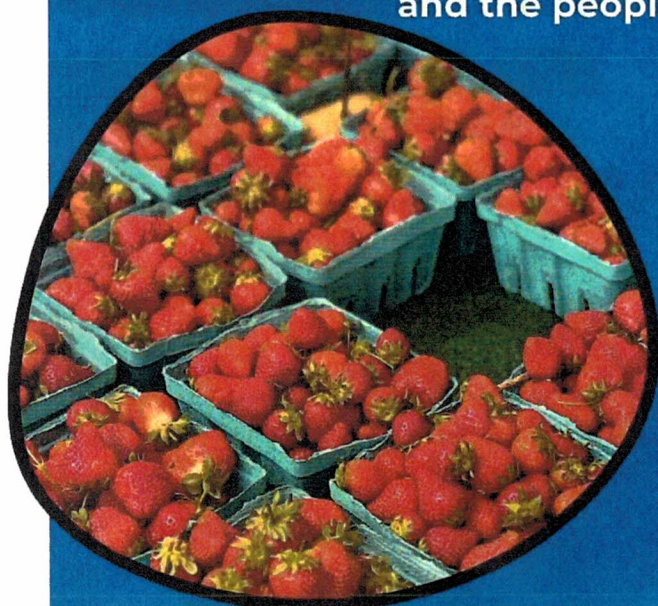
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Join the Boyle County Agriculture & Local Food Directory

The Boyle County Agriculture and Local Food Directory aims to educate and connect consumers and producers by showcasing the region's agricultural producers, service providers, and the rich diversity of our local food system. This directory serves as a valuable resource to foster greater awareness, appreciation, and support for the agricultural community, strengthening the bond between local farms and the people they nourish.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO
JOIN!



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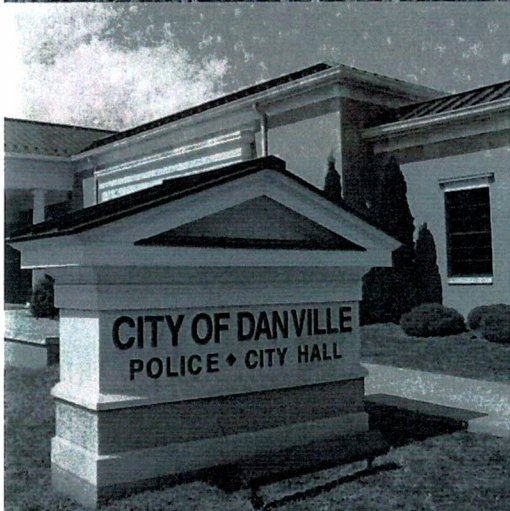
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Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

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Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.



Civic Engagement and Local Government

March 27th

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Boyle County Extension Office

Topic: What's in it for me? How your local Government works, and how you can be involved

April 24th

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Boyle County Extension Office

Topic: Save it! City of Danville Utilities and sustainability

May 22nd

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Boyle County Extension Office

Topic: On the Road Again. Parks, Public Services and Infrastructure in the City of Danville

June 26th

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Boyle County Extension Office

Topic: Who ya gonna call? Public Safety in Danville & Boyle County

July 24th

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Boyle County Extension Office

Topic: We're all in this together. How local partnerships move the community forward



Recipe

Game-Stuffed Peppers



Game-Stuffed Peppers

- 6 medium bell peppers
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced, or 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 pound ground venison, elk, or beef
- 1 tablespoon salt-free herb blend
- 1 teaspoon ground pepper
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 15-ounce can no-salt-added tomato sauce
- 1 cup cooked rice
- 4 ounces Monterey Jack Cheese, shredded

1. Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds, especially after handling raw meat.
2. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.
3. Gently scrub peppers with a clean vegetable brush under cool running water.
4. Cut off curved top of pepper. Remove stem only and throw away. Dice remaining part of pepper top.
5. Scoop out and discard seeds and pith from bottom part of each pepper. Preheat a 12-inch cast iron skillet over medium heat.
6. Add olive oil to the skillet. Sauté the diced pepper and onion for 3 to 5 minutes, until they begin to soften. Add ground venison, garlic, salt-free herb blend, pepper, and oregano. Cook 3 to 5 minutes longer. Stir often.
7. Add the tomato sauce and rice to the skillet. Stir to combine.
8. Fill peppers with rice and meat mixture. Top with shredded cheese.
9. Bake for 30 to 40 minutes, or until peppers are soft and cheese is melted.
10. Serve immediately. Store leftovers in the refrigerator within 2 hours.

Yield: 6 servings
Serving Size: 1 stuffed pepper

Nutrition facts per serving:
280 calories; 9g total fat; 3.5g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 75mg cholesterol; 380mg sodium; 25g carbohydrate; 4g dietary fiber; 9g total sugars; 0g added sugar; 26g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 15% Daily Value of calcium; 30% daily value of iron; 6% Daily Value of potassium.

Soil Testing

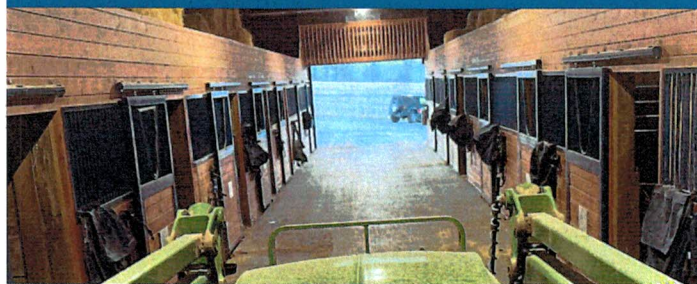
Just a reminder Boyle County Extension Office offers **FREE** soil testing to anyone in the county up to 40 samples per person per year. For soil sample bags or more information call the Boyle County Extension Office at (859)236-4484.

Dead Animal Removal

The Boyle County Conservation District and the Boyle County Fiscal Court sponsors the removal of deceased animals in Boyle County. If you have a deceased animal **call (859) 238-1137**, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. The deceased animal needs to be in an accessible area for pick up.



Be sure to follow the **Boyle Co. Agriculture & Natural Resources** on Facebook to stay up to date on events, classes and surveys.



Tyler Ray

Tyler Ray, County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources

Cooperative Extension Service

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Disabilities accommodated with prior notification