



AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

*Carlisle County ANR
Newsletter April, 2020*

Cooperative Extension Service
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Together We Can,

I hope this newsletter finds everyone well. I hope that you will find the information in this newsletter helpful to you as we navigate this challenging time period. Please reach out if I can assist you with research-based information or local needs. This is a fluid situation. Currently, our office is closed to the public, but we continue to work remotely and check into the office daily. We will follow the leadership of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service and the Governor's Office for guidance, as safety of Carlisle County residents is our first priority. Our office number is 270-628-5458. In addition, you can contact me by calling (731) 499-2280 for assistance.

Due to the Emergency Situation caused by the COVID-19 outbreak we have suspended all face-to-face meetings and trainings offered at the Carlisle County Extension Office until further notice. If you need your Dicamba or Paraquat training, I have listed all of the information needed to obtain those in this newsletter.

If anyone needs to send off a sample of any kind, we have a drop box located at the front door of the office. Drop your sample in the box with a phone number and we will get back to you.

We all know that agriculture doesn't stop for the COVID-19 pandemic. I encourage you to take precaution when visiting retailers and other businesses. Wash your hands often and remember to clean and disinfect commonly touched objects and surfaces like steering wheels, cell phones, door handles, etc.

With Spring here, please be aware of your equipment on the highways. As always, safety is a top priority!

Remember we will all get through this have a safe and productive crop season.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chuck Stokes".

Things to Remember:

All Programs have been cancelled for now.

We can still take soil samples and we have a drop box on the front of the building.

Drop your soil sample in with your name and a phone number and we will call you.

If you need Paraquat Training. The training is online and you can log off and get back on. You will be able to print a certificate that is good for 3 years. If you buy the product with new labeling you have to do the training.



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

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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

Please Read –This is a new required Training

This fall there will be new labeling on all paraquat products sold in the US. Paraquat is sold under the product names of Cyclone Star, Cyclone, Devour, Firestorm, Gramoxone, Helmquat, Para-shot, Paraquat, and Parazone. With these newly labeled products, certified applicators must now take a paraquat-specific training before use and applications “under the direct supervision” of a certified applicator will not be allowed. Paraquat-specific training must be repeated every three years. **The EPA is allowing the sale of paraquat that is already in the pipeline, so some paraquat that does not have the new labeling requiring the training may be sold this growing season.** If the training requirement is on the label of the product they are using, they must complete the training before use. Growers that currently have a supply of paraquat that does not have the new labeling listing are not required to complete the training.

Besides the paraquat-specific training, the EPA is implementing other measures to help prevent poisonings which includes:

- Restricting the use (mixing, loading, application, and other pesticide-related activities including but not limited to transporting and storing opened containers, cleaning equipment, and disposal of excess pesticides, spray mix, wash water, containers or other materials) of all paraquat products to certified applicators only.
- Clarifying toxicity on the label in English and Spanish
- Skull and crossbones symbol and “DANGER-ONE SIP CAN KILL” on the container.
- A “product package safety requirements” sticker attached to the container.
- A “counter card” summarizing the same important warning information that is to be distributed with every container.
- Requirement for closed system transfer (“requiring closed-system packaging for all non-bulk (less than 120 gallon) end use product containers of paraquat”) is not going to be in place this growing season as the technology will not be available. Registrants will submit label changes and new product registrations for the closed system packaging by March, 2019, and will have 12 months from EPA’s label approval date to adopt the closed system packaging.

As with any pesticide applications, read and follow all label directions, keep the product in its original packaging, and never transfer the materials into any type of food container. Poisonings have occurred because paraquat had been illegally put into drink containers. Since 2000 there has been 17 deaths due to paraquat poisoning, several of those were due to it being transferred to beverage containers. A single sip can be fatal.

Paraquat-specific training is available for paraquat users at their convenience at:

www.usparaquattraining.com. Once the user successfully completes the training, a certificate will be automatically generated. Applicators are required to retain certificates of training completed.

DICAMBA CERTIFICATION

Here are the available links (listed below) to complete your Dicamba training. You will only have to use ONE link. Be advised, the Syngenta link requires you to create an account, so it isn't as user friendly. Just a heads up, you will have to have your Private Applicator Card (*yellow card*) or Commercial Applicator (*white card*) handy to fill out the forms. (*Commercial Applicator is only for people who work in retail.*)

Please be advised, everyone who will be transporting, handling, mixing, applying, etc. is required to take this training.

After the training, you will need to print off the certificate of completion. To do so, you will need to take the course on a desktop or laptop computer that has printing capabilities.

If you have any questions about the training or need assistance, please do not hesitate to give me a call here at the office. We are still operating on normal business hours M-F 8:00-4:30 PM until we are given further instruction.

BASF

<https://www.engeniastewardship.com/#/training>

*Click on Start Training under the Online Module.

Bayer

<https://training.roundupreadyxtend.com/>

Syngenta - (Syngenta requires you to create an account.)

<http://www.syngenta-us.com/herbicides/tavium-application-stewardship>

Agriculture plays important role in Western Kentucky economic development initiative



The Mississippi River is an important agricultural and economic driver in the four river counties. Photo by Katie Pratt, UK agricultural communications.

March 19, 2020 | By: Katie Pratt

Columbus, Ky., - Carlisle County farmer Phillip Bean is a lifelong Bardwell resident, but a lack of job opportunities in the area has forced his son to move elsewhere to raise his family. Bean joined the West Kentucky Alliance for a Vibrant Economy, also known as WAVE, because he hopes to be a part of the economic development effort that brings his grandchildren back to live in the area he loves so much.

“In small towns, you have to be civic minded and try to give something back to your community,” he said. “Through WAVE, we are working toward a better tomorrow, so the area can provide more jobs, improve the tax base and offer more services to the area.”

The initiative was the brainchild of the judge-executives in the four Kentucky counties that border the Mississippi River: Todd Cooper in Ballard, Greg Terry in Carlisle, Kenny Wilson in Hickman and Jim Martin in Fulton. They joined forces in 2016 to provide an economic boost to their counties—all of which have had a steady population decline during the past five years. They realized that by working together, they make a stronger case to attract potential economic development opportunities to the area than if they were separate entities.

“We represent small counties that have a lot of demands on their resources,” Martin said. “By joining forces and putting aside our fears of losing our county identities, we are opening doors to economic development to occur in the area.”

Agriculture serves as the foundation of the area’s economy with farmers selling more than \$350 million in products in 2017. Poultry, corn, soybeans and livestock are the most commonly grown commodities. Knowing this, the judge executives invited the agriculture and natural resources agents with the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service to join the initiative early on. Agents Tom Miller in Ballard, Chuck Flowers from Carlisle, Mattea Mitchell from Hickman and Ben Rudy in Fulton serve on the

initiative's agriculture advisory committee and help promote agriculture and related events throughout their counties. This includes the initiative's Ag Day held each July.

"It's really knocked down county lines for us too," Flowers said. "We have been able to partner and offer extension programs to clients in all four counties through this initiative."

Mitchell also serves on the initiative's executive committee.

"We want to show our farmers why it's important for us to all work together and that the initiative is trying to provide opportunities for our young people to come back," she said.

The agents, along with the initiative's consultant Steven Elder, provide a valuable link to producers like Bean and Hickman County grain producer Jonathan Reynolds, who is also a WAVE agriculture advisory committee member. The agents and Elder work to increase producers' awareness about how economic development can positively impact their operation.

"I try to help producers understand how legislative policy affects their farm, and I advocate on their behalf for educational opportunities and grants," Elder said. "We are trying to bring the global economy to the four river counties."

Reynolds graduated college in May 2019 and returned to Hickman County to farm alongside his grandfather Jerry Peery. Through the initiative, he hopes to help other young farmers have success in the area. He runs the initiative's young farmer Facebook group where participants can get advice, sell equipment and talk agriculture with their peers.

"If we did not have organizations like this initiative that support young farmers, I don't think I would have had the opportunity to continue farming in my home county," Reynolds said. "It is very challenging for a new or young farmer to come into the area with so many established producers."

Initiative members know their agriculture base and river access provide them with many opportunities to attract agriculture-related businesses, but they also know agriculture is just one economic tool in their toolbox. The initiative has seen recent success, with Hickman and Fulton counties collaborating to acquire land in both counties for a joint industrial park. Industry and manufacturing are other economic areas in which they hope to expand.

"I think we have done a good job building a foundation and getting everyone working together," said Tom Miller. "Our next challenge is to see where we can go from here."

[UK Cooperative Extension](#) is part of the UK [College of Agriculture, Food and Environment](#). With its land-grant partner, [Kentucky State University](#), the UK Cooperative Extension Service brings the university to the people in their local communities, addressing issues of importance to all Kentuckians.

Contact: Mattea Mitchell, 270-653-2231

Writer: Katie Pratt, 859-257-8774, katie.pratt@uky.edu *UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, through its land-grant mission, reaches across the commonwealth with teaching, research and extension to enhance the lives of Kentuckians.*

Corn Planting Tips

Source: Chad Lee, director of the UK Grain and Forage Center of Excellence

Corn planting season is upon us. Traditional planting dates are April 1 through May 1 in Western Kentucky and April 15 to May 15 in Central and Eastern Kentucky. Proper planting is important to minimize risks to the crop later in the growing season. Here are some tips and important considerations as you ready your planters.

First, you should note that the previous six growing seasons have been among the wettest of the past 30 years. So far, it has been considerably wet again this year across much of the state. Current weather conditions and a comparison of previous growing seasons could change the way you approach this planting season.

Usually, we determine seeding rates based on how likely it is that the soil will have adequate moisture when pollination and seed fill occurs. UK research has shown that when our corn crop has adequate water, higher populations increase yields. Irrigated fields can handle much higher populations, up to 42,000 seeds per acre in 30-inch rows. When the crop lacks water, higher populations hurt yields. Your soil depth should also factor into your seeding rate. Deep soils can handle higher populations of 32,000 to 36,000 seeds per acre. You should use lower seeding rates on shallower soils. If you plant on heavily eroded hillsides, your rate should be less than 26,000 seeds per acre.

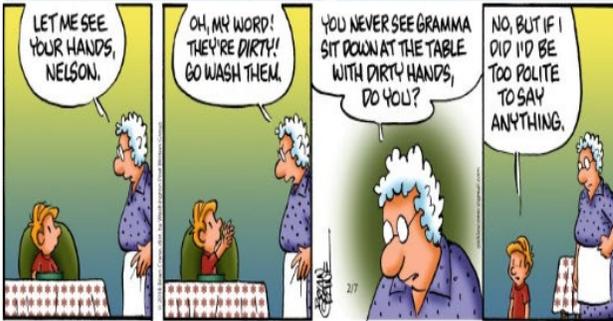
Corn should be planted at a uniform depth, typically between 1.5 to 2 inches deep. Uniform planting depth allows for even emergence. Shallow planted corn runs a higher risk for late-season lodging, developing a potassium deficiency and slower development. To that end, make sure your planter's row closers are fully operational, because if they are not, you could be inadvertently planting shallower than you intended.

In Kentucky in 2019, earlier planted corn did better than corn that was planted late. This was due to the weather turning dry in July and August. Corn that was already into seed fill during the dry period suffered very little from the weather. Ideally, we say wait for dry weather and the proper temperature to plant corn, but we also realize that we would have planted very little corn in 2019 had we waited for ideal weather conditions. Realize if you are planting into wet soils or “mudding in” corn, it increases your risk for sidewall compaction. Compaction restricts root growth and hurts your yields far more than a later planting date. However, if soils continue to be wet throughout much of the spring, consider a spiked-tooth closing wheel and back off the down pressure.

If we are going to plant in riskier conditions, it's important that we try to reduce our risks up front and be prepared to scout fields for problems as the season progresses. Take the time to make sure your planting equipment and any of its sensors are functioning properly and that you are getting the proper planting depth, closed rows and correct seed placement in each field. Double checking your work takes time, but it could help you avoid potential problems later. Producers who pay attention to details are more likely to end up with better stands.

More information on corn planting is available at the Carlisle County Extension Office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

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WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN!

You can remove up to 99.9% of germs on your hands if you:

- Use clean warm water
- Apply soap
- Rub your fingers and hands together and scrub for 20 seconds (sing Happy Birthday twice)
- Rinse with clean warm water
- Dry hands with a clean towel or paper towel
- If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that is 60% alcohol



Wash your hands or use a hand sanitizer often!

- After coughing or sneezing
- Before touching your food
- After using the bathroom
- After handling animals or their waste

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Some of you may have seen this video by Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue on MorningAgClips. I wanted to share this with you. It is a heartfelt message from the Secretary of Agriculture.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOGuTRVINCw&feature=youtu.be>

Information released by

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED