

NIKKI'S NEWSLETTER



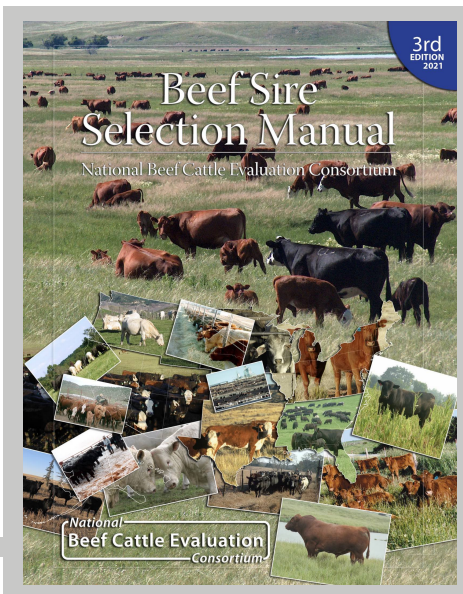
Cooperative Extension Service
University of Kentucky
Marshall County
1933 Mayfield Highway
Benton, KY 42025
(270) 527-3285
extension.ca.uky.edu

Marshall County's Agriculture and Natural Resources Update

New Publication Alert!

The 3rd Edition of the NBCEC Beef Sire Selection Manual is done! It can be viewed at:

www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/publications/asc/asc169/asc169.pdf



May Classes



May 5 - Growing Great Tomatoes

May 12 - Japanese Art of Kokedama

May 19 - Growing and Caring for Begonias

May 26 - Summer and Fall Lawn Care

12:30 pm EST/11:30 a.m. CST

Register at this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/UKYHortWebWed21>

visit kentuckyhortnews.com

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Free Gardening Grab Bags

 University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment

Let's Get Growing!

We are giving away 100 free garden grab bags! Bags include garden seed, recipes, growing information and more! This is an opportunity for amateurs to try vegetable gardening and veterans to sharpen their growing and cooking skills.

Follow this link to signup:

uky.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0dBuKYHjfQBF5FY

Upon signup completion, you will receive pickup instructions.

Marshall County Extension Office

1933 Mayfield Hwy

Benton, KY 42025

Monday- Friday 8-4:30

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, or physical or mental disability. UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND KENTUCKY COUNTIES



The Value of Weight Gain in Precondition Programs

Kevin Laurent, Extension Specialist, University of Kentucky

Since the inception of the CPH program in the early 1980's, Kentucky has had a rich history in the promotion of weaning and preconditioning calves prior to sale. In recent years the demand for weaned and preconditioned calves has been increasing, so much so that on any given sale day, packages of weaned calves are showing up at the yards. Still even with high demand for weaned calves, many producers continue to sell bawling calves. For cow calf producers to fully embrace this practice, the preconditioning phase must be profitable. The Post Weaning Value Added – Precondition Program (PVAP-Precondition) was designed for producers who have never weaned and preconditioned calves prior to sale. In this program, calves are weighed and valued at weaning and all expenses are recorded during the preconditioning phase. When calves are sold, a final closeout on the profitability of the preconditioning period is calculated. The following table is a summary of closeouts of participants in the PVAP-Precondition program from April 2019 to February 2021. There is much information to be gleaned from looking at this type of summary data. But for the sake of brevity I would like to focus on one main point. The importance of weight gain on the profitability of the precondition program. This table is sorted from the highest net \$/head to the lowest. The shaded top half of the table on average put 202 lbs. of gain on their calves during the

precondition period and averaged \$99.04 net added dollars per head over expenses versus selling at weaning. The bottom half averaged a mere 119 lbs. of gain and netted only \$53.87 per head returns.

If you look further under the average daily gain (ADG) column, you will see that ADG in the top half return group averaged 2.66 and ranged from 1.44 to 4.10. Days on feed averaged 83 days which is significantly more than the standard 45 day weaning program.

The take home message is the best hedge against market volatility is weight gain. How we put the gain on the calf can vary. We can be forage based and grow them slower but feed them more days or be feed based and grow them faster for a shorter feeding period. Right now, with feed costs higher, calf prices average at best, and many preconditioning programs moving to 60-day preconditioning periods, a longer feeding period with moderate gains utilizing our forage resources may be the most profitable strategy. One caution when using a forage-based program is to make a fair evaluation of your forage resources. Short overgrazed fescue pastures are not going to result in very favorable gains. In general, cool season perennial pastures need to be in the 4-8-inch range in height and depending on the forage specie may still need to be

supplemented. A good rule of thumb would be to supplement 1% of body weight for gains in the 1.5-2.0 range and 2% bodyweight for gains in the 2.0 to 2.8 range. Again, realizing the quantity and quality of forage becomes extremely important when the amount of supplement is decreased. As always contact your local ANR agent for more information on preconditioning strategies or if you are interested in participating in the PVAP-Precondition Program.

Summary of PVAP-Precondition Closeouts - Sorted by Net \$/Head

Farm	Sale Date	No. Head	Days on feed	Wean Wt	Concentrate (lbs) Type Feed	Gain	ADG	Feed COG	Net \$/Head
1	1/2/2020	14	84	435	6 lbs 14% + stockpile	160	1.95	0.63	142.23
2	1/2/2020	15	76	558	18 lbs 15% Rum	242	3.18	0.72	140.38
3	1/2/2020	20	86	580	12 lbs 16%	182	2.11	0.76	110.25
4	12/9/2020	22	67	497	10 lbs 16% Rum	258	3.85	0.39	101.87
5	12/3/2019	17	49	593	18 lbs 14% Rum	175	3.58	0.61	95.04
6	12/3/2019	29	138	439	5.75 lbs 14% + past	237	1.72	0.44	88.71
7	12/3/2020	30	105	296	4 lbs Purina Grower	167	1.59	0.64	81.27
8	12/9/2020	11	53	493	12 lbs 16% + Alf hay	217	4.10	0.48	78.81
9	12/3 & 2/4, 2019-20	25	88	430	9 lbs 12%	122	1.44	0.88	76.25
10	2/2/2021	22	86	480	12 lbs 14% + stockpile	261	3.03	0.47	75.58
11	7/25/2020	40	72	407	7 lbs 14% + pasture	114	1.59	0.54	74.09
12	12/3/2019	31	46	438	18.5 lbs 12%	109	2.36	0.78	72.17
13	2/2/2021	10	105	379	5 lbs 16% + hay	148	1.41	0.62	65.51
14	4/25/2019	21	48	534	17.6 lbs 2/3:1/3	144	3.01	0.65	64.14
15	12/8/2020	19	61	542	6 lbs 14% + pasture	107	1.75	0.53	61.00
16	12/3/2019	39	47	508	14 lbs corn	75	1.60	0.83	56.86
17	2/2/2021	43	56	611	11 lbs 14% + cov crop	121	2.15	0.68	55.01
18	12/10/2019	19	50	515	10 lbs 12%	109	2.17	0.69	38.94
19	2/2/2021	39	62	572	11 lbs 14% + hay	149	2.40	0.56	26.37
20	12/8/2020	33	52	636	12 lb 14% w/csh + hay	110	2.12	0.78	24.64
AVERAGE		25	72	497		160	2.36	0.63	\$76.46
Top Half		21	83	480		202	2.66	0.60	\$99.04
Bottom Half		29	60	514		119	2.06	0.67	\$53.87

Note: Market conditions are always a major factor (value at weaning vs value after preconditioning)

Spring Fencing Schools

Spring fencing schools will be offered on May 11th in Hopkinsville and May 13th in Owensboro. Both events include topics such as Fencing types and costs, Fence construction basics, Electric fencing basics, Innovations in fencing technologies and hands-on fence building. Cost is \$30 to attend and includes supplies, educational materials and lunch. All Covid rules will apply. Register here: forages.ca.uky.edu/events

WHEAT TALK

Your Wheat Questions Answered



Live Webinar

May 11, 2021

9 - 10:30 am (CDT)

Pre-registration required (ends 5/10/21)

https://uky.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wt7vEixUQSeg6Z3QSb6cOw

WHEAT TALK will include:

- Panel of experts answer questions in real time
- Short videos on Integrated Pest Management, Soils, Wheat Breeding and Variety Testing
- Links to additional wheat video (Irrigation)

PANELIST INCLUDE: Carl Bradley, Bill Bruening, John Grove, Carrie Knott, Travis Legleiter, Josh McGrath, Edwin Ritchey, Jordan Shockley, Tim Stombaugh, Raul Villanueva

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT
Grain and Forage Center of Excellence



For more information contact: Colette Laurent
Claurent@uky.edu (270) 365-7541 ext 21321

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4-H Youth Development
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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notificati

HAVE A SMALL
DIVERSIFIED FARM? WANT
TO EXPAND THAT FARM
INTO A BUSINESS
VENTURE?



College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

SMALL DIVERSIFIED FARM SERIES

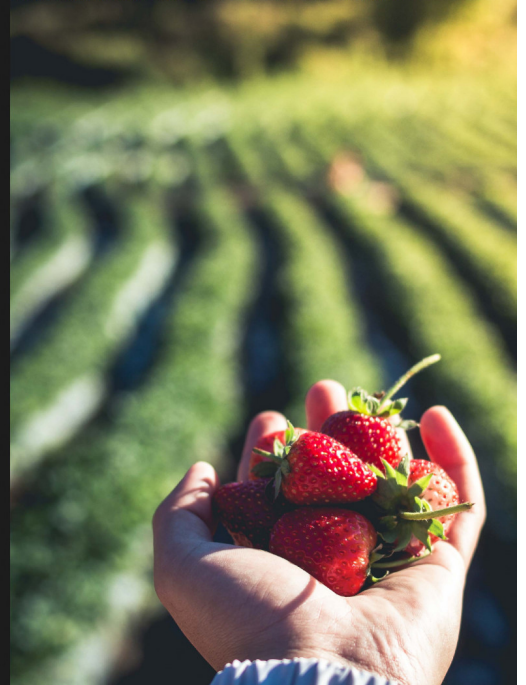
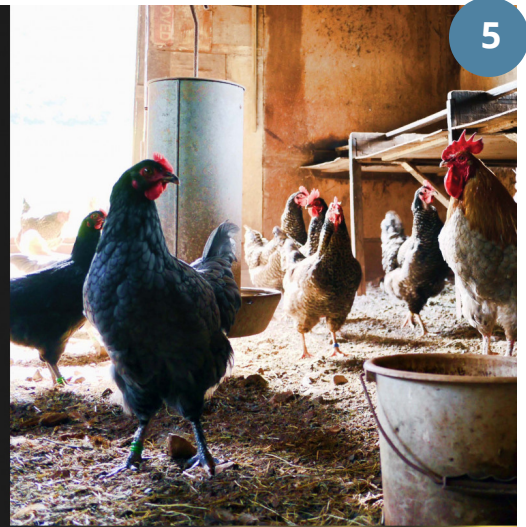
GRAND RIVERS COMMUNITY CENTER
155 W CUMBERLAND AVE
GRAND RIVERS, KY
6:00 PM

May 27th
Evaluating Your Farm Potential

CALL YOUR COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE TO REGISTER:

CALDWELL: 270-365-2787
CALLOWAY: 270-753-1452
CRITTENDEN: 270-965-5236
LIVINGSTON: 270-928-2168

MARSHALL: 270-527-3285
MCCRACKEN: 270-554-9520
TRIGG: 270-5223269



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Disabilities
accommodated

Succession Planting

Beth Wilson, Agent for Horticulture, Pulaski County

Do you get plumb ill when your tomatoes (or insert any vegetable name) become diseased and it seems like you just started harvesting? Or the lettuce you planted is done and you still want salad. Many gardeners make the mistake of relying on one planting of a vegetable to be sufficient for the entire growing season. There's a 'thing' called succession planting that may help out.

Succession planting is a gardening practice that involves planting tomatoes (or any vegetable) at intervals throughout the growing season. It's also described as planting a new crop after an old crop is done. Planting this way, successively, ensures that, as older plants mature and end their production cycle, new ones start to produce. This article will focus on planting vegetables at intervals during the season. Using this technique requires planning and maybe adjusting varieties based on days to maturity or heat/cold tolerance.

Lettuce and radishes are popular vegetables to successively plant. Sow seeds every week into prepared soil, the reward is a good supply of fixings for salads during the spring months. For summer harvests, heat-tolerant varieties are recommended.

For vegetables like tomatoes or peppers, 2 to 4 plantings during the season is a good suggestion. However, this means you must have transplants ready to go in the ground on those dates. Planning is a must for this type of gardening.

For tomatoes and pepper, the first safe planting date for Central KY is May 5-May 15. The last safe planting date for Central KY is June 15 to July 1. Many gardeners push these dates on both the early and late ends. An example would be planting tomatoes on April 30 (cold protection needed), May 30, and June 30. A fourth planting could be attempted on July 30 (or earlier) using a tomato variety with 50-55 days to maturity. This last planting would potentially need cold protection as well (see Table 1).

Beans, sweet corn, squash, cucumbers, and carrots are other vegetables that are easily planted in succession. See the Table 2 for recommended intervals.

This method works well for those gardeners wishing to enjoy fresh garden produce for as long as the season allows. For gardeners wanting to preserve, more garden space should be devoted to larger plantings with roughly the same harvest date.

Using succession planting, a gardener can harvest more and better quality produce from a garden site during a given growing season. Gardeners know their garden site and can adjust planting and seeding times in the table below. Here's to a great 2021 vegetable gardening season!

Table 1: Tomato or pepper planting and seed starting dates for succession planting

Plant outside	Start seedlings	Notes
April 30	March 15	May need cold protection Any maturity date
May 30	April 15	Any maturity date
June 30	May 15	Any maturity date
July 30	June 15	May need cold protection 50-55 days maturity

Table 2: Seeding/transplanting intervals for vegetables and herbs

Crops	Interval between sowings/plantings
Leaf or baby lettuce Radish Spinach Cilantro	7 days
Sweet Corn Bush beans Head lettuce	10 days
Beets Turnips Parsley Basil Dill	14 days
Cucumbers Melons Carrots	21 days
Summer squash	30 days

Recommended intervals from Johnny's Seed (<https://www.johnnyseeds.com/growers-library/vegetables/succession-planting-interval-chart-vegetables.html>)





Marshall Master Gardener's 5th Annual Plant Sale

Saturday, May 15th
8:00am- 12:00pm
@ the Marshall County Farmers Market
located at the Marshall Co. Extension Office
1933 Mayfield Hwy, Benton KY, 42025
270-527-3285

Trees, shrubs,
vines, vegetables, groundcovers,
fruit, herbs, bulbs,
annuals, perennials, houseplants,
compost and more!

-  **LOW PRICES**
-  **GARDENING ADVICE**
-  **DOOR PRIZES**
-  **FARMERS MARKET**

Plant sale proceeds (excludes farmers market) go to the MMGA and are used for Master Gardener educational opportunities, scholarships for agriculture students, community projects and more!

Due to COVID-19, six foot social distancing and masks will be required.

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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Broccoli and Beef Stir-Fry

1 pound lean beef steak, sliced diagonally across the grain into thin strips

1 tablespoon plus ½ cup stir-fry sauce

1 clove minced garlic

4 tablespoons canola oil, divided

1 medium red onion, cut into ½ inch dice

1 sweet red pepper, cut into ½ inch dice

1 medium yellow

squash, cut into ¼ inch slices

2 cups fresh broccoli florets

1 cup cauliflower florets

½ **teaspoon** crushed red pepper flakes

1. Combine 1 tablespoon stir-fry sauce and minced garlic in a bowl. **Add** the beef strips. Let stand 15 minutes.

2. Heat 1 tablespoon canola oil in a large skillet or wok.

3. Add beef and stir fry for one minute. **Remove** beef from skillet.

4. Heat the remaining 3 tablespoons canola oil in the skillet or wok. **Add** vegetables. **Stir-fry** for four minutes or until vegetables are crisp-tender.

5. Return beef to skillet.

6. Add the remaining ½ cup stir-fry sauce and red pepper flakes. **Cook** and

stir 1 to 2 minutes longer, until heated through.

Yield: 8, 1 cup servings

Nutrition Analysis: 180 calories; 10 g fat; 1.5 g saturated fat; 0 g trans fat; 25 mg cholesterol; 630 mg sodium; 9 g carbohydrate; 2 g fiber; 3 g sugar; 15 g protein.

90% recommended allowance for vitamin C.



Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand.

Kentucky Broccoli

SEASON: May through early July; October through mid-November

NUTRITION FACTS: Broccoli is a good source of vitamin A, vitamin C, and phytochemicals, all of which have health benefits.

SELECTION: Choose tender, young, dark green stalks with tightly closed buds. One-and-a-half pounds of broccoli will yield 4, ½ cup servings.

STORAGE: Store broccoli, unwashed, no longer than 3 to 5 days in a perforated plastic bag in the refrigerator. Wash broccoli just before using.

PREPARATION: Wash broccoli under cold running water. Trim the leaves and peel the stalk.

To steam: Place on a rack above boiling water and steam 6 to 8 minutes. Rinse with cold water

Source: www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov

and drain.

To boil: Place in a saucepan with 1 inch boiling water and ½ teaspoon salt. Cover and cook 5-7 minutes.

To microwave: Place broccoli in a microwave-safe dish. Add 1 inch water and cover with a glass lid or plastic wrap. Microwave 3 to 4 minutes or until crisp-tender.

BROCCOLI

Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences
University of Kentucky, Nutrition and Food Science students

March 2011

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For more information go to:
<http://marshall.ca.uky.edu/AgNaturalResources>
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Marshall County
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