

THE FARMACY

MARCH NEWS



Agent Remarks

All I can say about this weather we've been having is "WOW!" I don't think I've ever experienced this nice of a February. As much as I would love for this weather to continue, UK Meteorologist Matt Dixon thinks we may be in for some colder weather this month. For more on this, please read the UK Ag Weather update found on page 2. This past month has been busy here at Ag Extension. We've hosted our Central Region grower meetings, which were filled with good information relevant to the conditions in the markets and weather that we've been seeing. I've also spent the past month working on programming for this spring and summer, and the Farm City Field Day. I'm excited for the things to come! With the spring and summer coming up the University of Kentucky is also hosting a slew of events that may be pertinent to you and your operation. Please make yourselves aware of all the upcoming events at the end of the newsletter.

Please reach out if you have any questions or want to schedule a visit! Have a great March!



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Legislation went into effect on the first of 2023 that made many services subject to Kentucky's 6% sales tax. One change was to the qualifications for residential use exemption from sales tax on utilities. As a result, Kentucky sales tax will be charged for utility services furnished to any location that is not your place of domicile, even if it was formally classified as residential.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!

Changes in Kentucky Sales Tax that Apply to Farming

Jerry Pierce, Kentucky Farm Business Management Coordinator

Ag Weather Update

Matt Dixon, University of Kentucky Meteorologist

Looking beyond...I'm afraid there may be some bad news on the horizon. Following a VERY warm January and February, there's some hints that March could go in the other direction. After a mild first week of the month, outlooks start hinting at colder air filtering into the region. In fact, below is a look at the week 3 & 4 temperature outlook, valid for the time period of March 11th through the 24th,

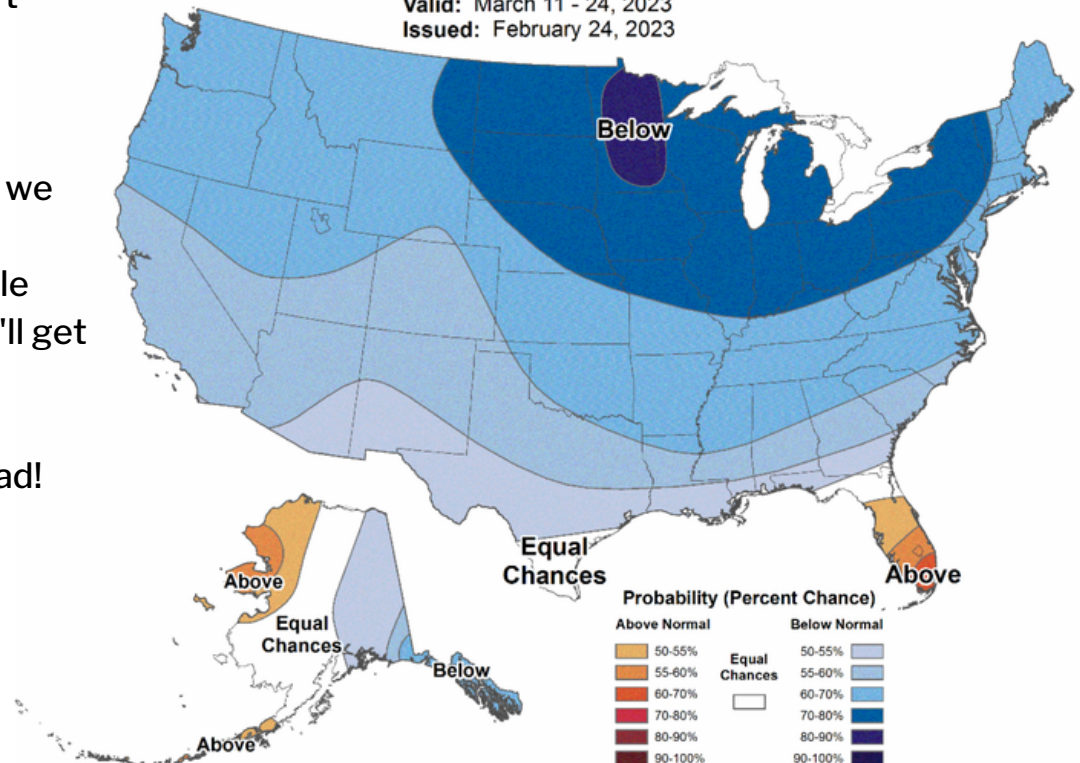
which shows pretty high confidence in below normal temperatures. As much as we want this warmth to continue, looks like it's coming to an end. Speaking of the warmth.....this has been one of the warmest starts to the year that Kentucky has ever seen. January 2023 was our 4th warmest January ever recorded (129 year record). Taking into account all the data and 2023 is running in a very similar trajectory to 2017. Back at that time, we saw our 2nd warmest January-February ever recorded. 2023 will likely be right up there with it. Much like 2017, vegetation is waking up pretty early and moving into advanced growth stages much earlier than normal. As you may imagine, while we're seeing signs of spring early in the year, this isn't necessarily a good thing. Our warmth in 2017 was actually followed by below normal temperatures in March. In fact, we had lows dip well into the 20s and even the teens over multiple nights. While I'm not saying we'll get that cold, the outlook below definitely hints at some cold days and nights ahead!



Weeks 3-4 Temperature Outlook



Valid: March 11 - 24, 2023
 Issued: February 24, 2023



UK Ag Weather Update
 February 27th, 2023



2023 Pasture Renovation Program

Eroded Areas (Livestock Damaged Pastures)

❖ **Sign-up period is February 1st – March 31st**

(Program will run now thru depletion of funds)

❖ 50% cost-share rate not to exceed \$1500.00

❖ Pasture renovation with grasses or legumes

(All seeds legally sold in Kentucky with an approved certified seed tag)

❖ Current Soil Test (no more than a year old)

❖ All renovated pastures must be identified on farm map

❖ Receipt of seed purchase(s)

Completion of project and all paperwork submitted by May 1, 2023

Note: Grasses seeded by April 15th / Alfalfa seeded by May 1st

Recommendation: No grazing on renovated field for at least 60 days from date of seeding.

Please call or stop by the Conservation District Office
Located at 100 E Penn Avenue
Office open Monday thru Friday from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Phone Number: 502-863-2466

Figure 1: Winter wheat in Princeton, KY 2/24/23. Despite the bitter cold temperatures in late December 2022, the wheat stands are good. Weed populations are equally “nice”.



How Could the Potential Warmest Winter on Record Affect Kentucky's Wheat Crop?

-Conner Raymond & Dr. Carrie Scott

As the ‘meteorological’ winter ends (Dec 1 to Feb 28) for 2023, we are projected to have the warmest winter on record. This is impressive considering the sub-zero temperatures in late December 2022. This has many people, including us, wondering: What does this mean for Kentucky’s 2023 winter wheat crop?

First: We are fortunate that our current wheat crop is not excessively large, with excessive stands and tillers and at an advanced growth stage for this early in the season. Wheat with ‘excessive growth’ and at an advanced growth stage typically is at a much greater risk to be damaged by a spring freeze than

moderate/acceptable stands. This year, we likely do not have excessive growth and advanced growth stages because the fall conditions were quite dry, which resulted in delayed emergence in most situations. In addition, the sub-zero temperatures during late December seems to have slowed down wheat growth enough to keep stands from becoming excessively thick.

Second: To compare how warm this winter has been, we examined the growing degree days (base temperature of 32°F) from December 1 to February 28 for this year and the years that the National Weather Service has identified as the “Top 10 Warmest” Winters for Paducah and Lexington. We chose these sites because the National Weather Service has a record of the top 10 warmest winters and because they likely represent the range of weather differences across the potential wheat growing regions within Kentucky.

Third: Since the winter of 2011-2012, seven of the last twelve winters have had above average GDD’s. Of those seven, three have resulted in late spring freeze events that have harmed the wheat crop.

What contributes to a significant freeze event? Temperature, duration of temperature and plant growth stage are all factors to be considered. The majority of yield limiting damage occurs to wheat after Feekes 6, or jointing, when the growing point of the plant moves above the soil surface. Plants can withstand cold and even sub-freezing temperatures at this stage. However, if temperatures fall at or below 24°F for two or more hours moderate to severe yield damage can occur. If freeze damage is suspected it is important to wait seven to ten days with good growing temperatures, 40°F or above, before scouting. Even with above normal GDD’s, most of the wheat in the state has not reached jointing yet but will be approaching soon. Refer to AGR 253 and ID 125 if freeze damage is suspected.

We are painfully aware that this year our GDD’s rank second to the 2016-2017 season. Most of us recall vividly the late freeze that had us very concerned for the impact to our wheat crop ([link here](#)). Although multiple freeze events occurred that season, final wheat yields averaged 77 bu/A (the record breaking state average was the 2020-2021 season at 87 bu/A). This highlights the importance of closely monitoring wheat growth and development, particularly if freeze events are forecast. Should a freeze event occur, refer to AGR 253 and ID 125.

Forage News

Timely Tips

- Continue pasture renovation by no-tilling seeding legumes.
- Place small seed at 1/4 to 1/2 inch deep and check depth several times during planting; slow down for more precise seeding.
- 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 off before grazing new clover plants).
- Provide free choice high-magnesium mineral to prevent grass tetany on lush spring growth.

Critical Time to Begin Sampling for Alfalfa Weevil

-Ric Bessin, UK Entomology Extension Specialist

The University of Kentucky Ag Weather Center's degree day model for alfalfa weevil indicates that many counties in Kentucky are likely to exceed the 190 Degree Days (DD) used as a starting point to begin scouting by early to mid-March. Once temperature accumulations reach 190 DD, growers are advised to look at their alfalfa fields and begin their alfalfa weevil larval counts. So far, degree day accumulations for this year are trending close to average for the last 10 years.

Fall-laid alfalfa weevil eggs are the first to hatch in the spring. These eggs hatch earlier than those laid in the spring, and 190 DD approximates when first leaf feeding damage becomes noticeable. Temperature extremes during the winter help to limit the survival of alfalfa weevil eggs that were laid in stems in the fall. Damage by the young larvae will first appear as tiny pin holes in the leaves.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!

Tips to Controlling Weeds in Grass Pastures

-JD Green



Using good pasture management practices can help minimize weeds and unwanted plants in grass pastures and hayfields. To get the most quantity and quality from pastures, use management practices that encourage growth of a vigorous, dense stand of forage grasses and limit germination and growth of unwanted plants. Weeds that reproduce by seed readily germinate in thin pasture stands, and unwanted plants are more prone to become established in these areas.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!

The grain markets surged to a new level after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in late February 24, 2022. Prices have come down since their peak last spring, but they are still extremely high. Current prices for 2023 new-crop delivery are around \$5.60/bu for corn, \$14/bu for soybeans (2/22/23). This is an increase of around \$.30/bu for corn and \$.75/bu for soybeans compared to what these prices were expected one year ago.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!

GRAIN PROFITABILITY OUTLOOK 2023 BY: GREG HALICH



SPRING LAMB PRODUCTION

-Penn State University Extension

Sheep are well suited to a small-scale or part-time farming operation due to their nutritional versatility and adaptability. Sheep can be fed a very high concentrate diet (similar to swine), solely a forage diet, or any combination. Spring lambing uses the ewe's natural breeding cycle (breeding October through December and lambing March to May), which improves breeding efficiency and potential pasture utilization. Compared to most other livestock enterprises, spring lamb production has lower investment costs and labor requirements, and quicker returns on investment. Spring lambing programs also have lower housing, feeding, and labor costs compared to more intensive lambing enterprises.

Click [HERE](#) to read more!

HELP for Farmers and Workers



- translation services (ex. medical emergencies, tobacco/ beef handling, job orders)
- language lessons (Spanish for you, English for your workers)
- numerous community resources (ex. health/ dental care, food, clothes, utilities)
- available for local, H2A, and undocumented workers

Free services cheerfully provided by your local migrant services office - we are **NOT** associated with legal aid.

Diana Kuta & Angel Martinez/ Scott County, Kentucky.

diana.kuta@scott.kyschools.us or
angel.martinez@scott.kyschools.us
(502) 370-1929 or (502) 370-8141

Cow-Calf Profitability Estimates for 2022 and 2023 (Spring Calving Herd)

-Greg Halich, Kenny Burdine, and Jonathan Shepherd

The purpose of this article is to examine cow-calf profitability for a spring calving herd that sold weaned calves in the fall of 2022 and provide an estimate of profitability for the upcoming year, 2023. Table 1 summarizes estimated costs for a well-managed spring-calving cowherd for 2022. Every operation is different, so producers should evaluate and modify these estimates to fit their situation (see Table 2). Note that in Table 1 we are not including depreciation or interest on equipment/fencing/facilities, as well as labor and land costs.



Click [HERE](#) to read more!



RECIPE

M
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H



Blackberry Lemon Upside Down Cake

2 teaspoons melted butter	1¼ cup all-purpose flour	1 large egg
⅓ cup brown sugar	1½ teaspoons baking powder	¾ teaspoon vanilla extract
1½ teaspoons grated lemon peel	¼ teaspoon salt	1 teaspoon lemon juice
2 cups fresh blackberries	⅔ cup sugar	½ cup skim milk
	2 tablespoons butter	

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Place melted butter in the bottom of a 9-inch round cake pan.

Sprinkle with brown sugar and lemon rind.

Top with berries. Set aside.

Combine flour, baking powder and salt in a small bowl. Set dry ingredients aside.

Beat sugar and butter together in a large bowl with a mixer

on medium speed until well blended.

Add egg, vanilla, and lemon juice. Mix well.

Add dry ingredients to egg mixture alternately with milk, beginning with milk and ending with flour. Mix after each addition.

Spoon the batter over the blackberries.

Bake at 350 degrees for 40

minutes.

Cool cake for 5 minutes on a wire rack. **Loosen** edges of the cake with a knife and place a plate upside down on top of cake; **invert** onto plate.

Serve warm.

Yield: 8, 3 inch wedges.

Nutritional Analysis: 230 calories, 5 g fat, 35 mg cholesterol, 220 mg sodium, 45 g carbohydrate, 2 g fiber, 4 g protein.

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



Wildlife Information

Food Plots

-Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife

The planting of food plots is possibly the most implemented and, in most cases, the least needed wildlife management practice in Kentucky. Many landowners believe that food plots provide everything that wildlife need when in fact they comprise the smallest piece of the wildlife habitat puzzle. The key elements for wildlife survival are food, water, cover, and space. However, given the mild climate and diverse vegetation in the state, food is seldom a limiting factor for wildlife. In fact, animals feed on a wide variety of native vegetation, some of which is often considered to be worthless weeds by most landowners. Cover, because it is most often lacking, is virtually always much more important than food in determining the abundance of local populations. However, food plots can be a piece of the puzzle, when they are done properly

Click [HERE](#) to read more!

Species	Plants
Northern Bobwhite Quail	Millets Milo Chufa Clovers Korean lespedeza Kobe lespedeza Bicolor lespedeza Birdsfoot trefoil Partridge pea Wheat Warm season grass mixture Redtop Orchard grass Soybeans
Wild Turkey	Milo Chufa Clovers Korean lespedeza Kobe lespedeza Alfalfa Wheat Orchard grass Warm season grass mixture
White-tailed deer	Canola Milo Corn Clovers Bicolor lespedeza Alfalfa Wheat Orchard grass Warm season grass mixture Birdsfoot trefoil
Cottontail rabbit	Bluegrass Orchard grass Warm season grass mixture Korean lespedeza Kobe lespedeza Clovers
Mourning Dove	Sunflowers Millets

Spotted Lantern Fly

-University of Kentucky Entomology and Forestry

Fast Facts

- Spotted lanternfly (SLF) is an invasive species, originally from Asia, that was first confirmed in the US in 2014.
- The adult is distinctive looking, with front wings that have a mixture of stripes and spots while the back wings have a bright red color that contrasts with white, black, and khaki coloration on the rest of the body.
- Tree of heaven is their primary host plant, but they are known to feed on over 70 different species of plants including grapes, apples, and maples.
- If you believe you have seen or captured a spotted lanternfly, please take a photo or capture the specimen and get it identified by the entomology department or submit it to a local extension professional.



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Click [HERE](#) to read more!

March Beef Improvement Meeting

CAIP Eligible

Tuesday, March 21st, 2023
6:00PM at the Scott County Extension Office

Dr. Ray Smith: Forages for Spring and Summer

Drs. Carter Mobley & Abbey Biddle: Antibiotic Changes Coming in June 2023

Dinner Provided
Call the Extension Office to RSVP:
502-863-0984

Weather date March 28th



March Events

Scott County FFA Alumni Chili Cook-off

Thursday, March 30th
6pm

Hosted at the Scott County Extension Office

\$10 a person
Live Music
Silent Auction
Guest Speakers

All Proceeds supports Great Crossing, Scott County, and Royal Springs FFA Chapters



CAIP Eligible

THIRD THURSDAY THING

Every third Thursday of the month,
January through November, at 10 a.m. ET

~~January 19: USDA Farm and Home Loans | Natural Resource Management~~

~~February 16: Organic Agriculture~~

March 16: Small Ruminants

April 20: Pest Control | NRCS Programs

May 18: Aquaculture

June 15: Farmers Markets | Juneteenth Celebration

July 20: Fencing | Pastured Poultry

August 17: Sustainable and Organic Agriculture

September 21: Pawpaw

October 19: Small Ruminants

November 16: Small Farms Conference

Join us in person at the Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm or online at [YouTube.com/kysuag/live](https://www.youtube.com/kysuag/live)



KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension Program

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Private Applicator Pesticide Training

CAIP Eligible

THURSDAY,
MARCH 23RD

8 - 11AM

Scott County Extension Office, 1130
Cincinnati Rd. Georgetown, KY

RSVP by Friday March 17th by
calling the Scott County
Extension Office at 502-863-
0984

Call the Scott County Extension Office if you have any questions!



IPM Training School

March 8, 2023

McCracken County Extension Office
2025 New Holt Road Paducah, KY 42001



Program

8:00 AM	Registration
8:15 AM	Welcome

CAIP Eligible

Field Crop		
8:25 AM	Changes to Pesticide Certification and Training	Dr. Ric Bessin
8:50 AM	Herbicide Resistance in KY Weeds	Dr. Travis Legleiter
9:15 AM	Old Foes and New Challenges: Managing Corn Diseases	Dr. Kiersten Wise
9:40 AM	Fungicide Resistance and Management of Foliar Pathogens of Soybean	Dr. Carl Bradley
10:05 AM	COFFEE BREAK	
10:20 AM	Updates on the Control of Stink Bugs Attacking Soybeans in Western Kentucky	Dr. Armando Falcon-Brindis
10:45 AM	Description of Caterpillars in Soybean and Efficacy of Insecticides for their Management	Dr. Raul Villanueva
11:10 AM	Soil Sampling, Testing and How Recommendations Are Made	Dr. Edwin Ritchey
11:35 AM	After the Recommendation: What to/not to Do?	Dr. John Grove

12:00 PM LUNCH BREAK

Horticulture		
1:00 PM	Advanced Concepts in Fungicides	Dr. Paul Vincelli
1:25 PM	Forest Health Update	Dr. Ellen V. Crocker
1:50 PM	Management Options for Root-Knot Nematode	Dr. Rachel Rudolph
2:15 PM	COFFEE BREAK	
2:30 PM	Soil Water Monitoring Options for Horticulture Crops	Mr. Daniel Becker
2:55 PM	Wolves on the Border: New Invasive Species and Kentucky	Dr. Jonathan Larson
3:20 PM	Current Wildlife Management Issues in Kentucky	Dr. Matt Springer

To learn more or register for the IPM Training School click [HERE](#).

Kentucky Regional Fencing Schools

April 11th at Allen County Extension Office

7:30 - 4:30pm

Click [HERE](#) to register!

April 13th at SMK Agricultural Venue

7:30 - 4:30pm

Click [HERE](#) to register!

CAIP Eligible

Registration Fee: \$35



Grain Events

CAIP Eligible

May 9th: UK Wheat Field Day at Princeton

June 29th: Pest Management Field Day at Princeton

July 25th: UK Corn, Soybean, and Tobacco Field Day at Princeton



Kentucky Beef

Expo

March 3rd -

5th

At the Kentucky State Fair Grounds!



International Grassland Congress

May 14 - 19 at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center!

This is the first time IGC will be in the US since 1981.

The theme of the conference is Grassland for Soil, Animal and Human Health. The conference features academic presentations that highlight research on grassland ecology, forage production and utilization, livestock production systems, grassland sustainability and ecosystems, and grassland policies and social issues. Another highlight of the event will be tours of grasslands throughout the Midwest, Southeast, Northeast, and Pacific Northwest regions of the United States. We are excited to host the International Grassland Congress in Kentucky. Find out more about the 2023 event on our event page.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more!

CAIP Eligible





University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service



Farm City **FIELD DAY**

TUESDAY, MAY 9TH

ELMWOOD STOCK FARM

FREE ENTRY / DOORS OPEN: 4:30PM



3520 PARIS PIKE, GEORGETOWN, KY 40324

Come join the Farm City Field Day Committee for a day of fun educational experiences. This year's hosting farm is Elmwood Stock Farm. Learn about their business and how they provide local organic produce and meat to Kentuckians all throughout the state while enjoying a free meal sponsored by local businesses.

PLAN ON ATTENDING? SCAN THE QR CODE OR CALL THE SCOTT COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE AT 502-863-0984 TO CLAIM YOUR MEAL VOUCHER!

Rain date is May 11th.

