



The Mason County mAGazine

A Monthly Agricultural Newsletter



IN THIS ISSUE:
CAIP Deadlines
Cattle Pregnancy Testing
Timely Tips
Ag Business Directory
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Fall Soil Testing
Upcoming Programs
Important Dates

A NOTE FROM YOUR AGENT

Hello all,

Fall is here in Mason County, and it's shaping up to be a busy month! For those approved for CAIP funding, be sure to get your paperwork turned in to the Conservation District by the October 10th deadline.

We're finally coming out of the drought, and the recent rain has been a welcome boost to get things greened back up. Fall is a great time to do soil testing, so if you haven't taken advantage of this free resource through the Mason County office, now's the time to get a clear picture of your fields and plan for next year.

There are also lots of upcoming programs in the next few months, so check those out later in this newsletter!

As always, don't hesitate to reach out—I look forward to working with you this fall and seeing many of you at upcoming programs!

Audrey Wright

Audrey Wright
Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent
Mason County Extension

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Facebook



Mason Co. Conservation District

SHARED-USE

EQUIPMENT



GREAT PLAINS 1006NT DRILL

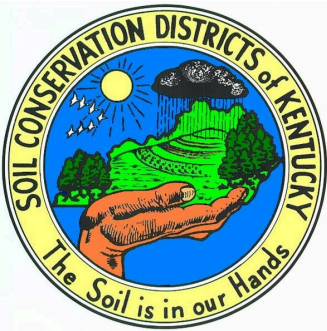


INLINE WRAPPER HYBRID X

For rental information, contact the district office (606)759-5570 Ext. 3



Your completed project for Mason County's CAIP program is due in The Conservation District office by the close of business **October 10, 2025**. Remember that in order to get reimbursed for your project you will need specific paperwork. If you have any questions please call the Conservation District office (606-759-5570) Monday thru Friday 8am-4:30pm.



PREGNANCY TESTING WORKSHOP

We had an awesome turnout for our Pregnancy Testing Program, with over 40 cattle producers coming out to learn and get some hands-on experience. It was great to see so many people interested and involved!

Dr. Les Anderson from the University of Kentucky walked us through palpation, ultrasound, and blood-based testing methods. After the classroom portion, we headed to the chute for some hands-on practice.

We also shared guides and resources, including tips on where to order testing supplies. The goal was to give producers the tools to improve herd efficiency and make their operations more profitable.

If you're thinking about doing some pregnancy testing on your own herd, call the Mason County Extension Office at (606) 564-6808. We'd be happy to help with resources and guidance to get you started!



Spring Calving Cows

- Schedule a pregnancy examination of cows if not done previously. Winter feeding costs can be minimized by eliminating open cows prior to winterfeeding. Pregnancy status (pregnant versus open) can be determined using palpation, transrectal ultrasonography, or blood sampling. Stage of pregnancy can only be determined by palpation or ultrasonography (performed by your veterinarian). A new chute-side blood sampling kit (Alertys from IDEXX) is available for use. It provides yes/no pregnancy data in 20 minutes for about \$8-10 per cow.
- Evaluate the body condition of your cows and improve their condition prior to winter. It takes about 75 pounds to increase body condition a full score.
- If you have already done a preweaning working, revaccinate (booster) calves as needed. Treat calves for internal and external parasites. If you vaccinate calves yourself, be sure to store, handle, and administer vaccines properly.
- Wean calves before cows lose body condition.
- Obtain weaning weights of your calves and remember weaning is the time to do your first round of culling and selecting breeding stock. You can eliminate obviously inferior calves, especially those with wild or nervous dispositions. Consider the number of heifers that you will need to save for your cow herd. Bulls that are old, unsound, roguish, etc. can be culled now. It is not too early to begin thinking about replacements.

Fall Calving Cows

- The calving season should be in full swing for fall-calving cows. Check cows frequently. Identify calves and commercial males should be castrated and implanted.
- Take accurate records of calving and calving performance. Our new app (Stocket at Stocket.us) makes data collection and reporting simple, easy, and convenient.
- Put fall-calving cows on accumulated pasture before the breeding season. Be sure to save some grass in the breeding pastures.
- It is time to get everything ready for the fall-breeding season, too. Line-up semen, supplies, etc. now and get your bulls ready to go (don't forget their breeding soundness evaluation). Breeding soundness exams are a vital component to reducing the risk of reproductive performance and need to be conducted 30-45 days before EVERY breeding season. Contact your herd veterinarian to schedule the exams.
- Obtain yearling measurements (weight, hip height, scrotal circumference, etc.) on replacement animals - especially for registered ones.
- Contact your herd veterinarian and schedule pelvic area examinations and reproductive tract scores for your potential replacements. Use pelvic area to identify larger heifers with smaller than normal pelvic areas so you can remove them from the breeding pool. Reproductive tract scores can be used to identify immature heifers for culling. Typically, heifers with a reproductive tract score less than 3 have limited ability to conceive early in the breeding season.

BUFFALO TRACE AREA AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES DIRECTORY

DO YOU OR YOUR BUSINESS PROVIDE AGRICULTURE
OR NATURAL RESOURCES PRODUCTS OR SERVICES?
COMPLETE THE SURVEY USING THE QR CODE TO BE
ADDED TO THE DIRECTORY!

**SIGN UP
NOW**



**Cooperative
Extension Service**

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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 or marital status, genetic information, age, veterans status, physical or mental disability or receipt of institutional care or other 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.



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.



DEADLINE

OCTOBER 31

✳️ NOW ACCEPTING FREE ENTRIES! ✳️

Calling all agriculture and natural resource product and service providers in the Buffalo Trace County Area (BRACKEN, FLEMING, LEWIS, MASON, & ROBERTSON COUNTIES) ! If you own a farm or farm business this is your chance to advertise your products or services for **FREE** in the Buffalo Trace Agriculture & Natural Resources Directory. All you must do is fill out the questionnaire with your information. The deadline to enter to be part of the first edition is October 31st, 2025, we will update once a year. The target release date for the directory is January 1st, 2026. If you have any questions, please contact April Wilhoit at the Fleming County Extension Office.

HAY TESTING

The Mason County Extension Office now has a hay probe available to check out at the office to help producers collect hay samples for lab analysis.

WHY TEST YOUR FORAGE?

- Tested forages can mean higher profit, whether feeding cattle, horses, goats, sheep or other livestock. Knowing the nutritional value will help you minimize your cost and maximize your production.
- The analysis report, assists producers in balancing feed rations for their livestock. Each livestock species take a different energy level at different stages of their lives. A ration balance will help maintain a healthy diet.
- Forage testing helps determine fair market value and establish an equitable price for forage sales.
- Buying or Selling Hay: The Forage Testing Program maintains a list of Kentucky hay producers that have their hay tested through KDA. The service is offered throughout the state and the information may be viewed on this KDA “Forage Sales Directory/Tested Hay” webpage.

Contact me if you have any questions or to learn more about submitting samples for analysis!

****If you would like to have samples taken for the East KY Hay contest, those samples will be taken later in the summer****



FALL SOIL TESTING

Soil samples can be collected through much of the year, although fall (**September to December**) or spring (February to April) are the best times. Fall sampling will often result in a faster return of results and recommendations. Fall sampling will also allow the grower time to have the fertilizer applied well before planting the next crop. However, fall sampling results in lower pH and soil test K levels when conditions are dry. In either case, a field should always be sampled the same time of the year in order to make historical comparisons. Most fields should be sampled every three to four years. High-value crops, such as tobacco, commercial horticultural crops, alfalfa, red clover, and corn silage, should be sampled annually so that plant nutrient levels can be monitored more closely. Application of manure can change soil test phosphorus, potassium, and zinc levels dramatically, so sampling manured fields each year is also recommended.



Soil testing
is now
FREE
in Mason
County!

Cooperative Extension Service



BUFFALO TRACE AREA FARM SCHOOL

4 THURSDAYS IN OCTOBER

6:00PM MEAL WILL BEGIN AT 5:30PM

FLEMING CO. EXTENSION OFFICE

1384 ELIZAVILLE RD, FLEMINGSBURG

CALL YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION OFFICE TO
REGISTER BY 9/26/2025

- BRACKEN: (606) 735-2141
- FLEMING: (606) 845-4641
- LEWIS: (606) 796-2732
- MASON: (606) 564-6808
- ROBERTSON: (606) 724-5796



OCTOBER 2
PLUMBING BASICS

OCTOBER 9
PLANT DISEASES 2.0

OCTOBER 16
BACKYARD POULTRY

OCTOBER 23
**CONTAINER
GARDENING**

OR REGISTER USING
THE QR CODE



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Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
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UPCOMING PROGRAMS



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

"Today's Challenges, Tomorrow's Opportunities"

Kentucky Beef Conference



October 21, 2025

Fayette County Extension Office
1140 Harry Sykes Way
Lexington, Kentucky 40504

2:00-3:00

Registration, visit
sponsors

**RSVP by October 17th
to Fayette County
Extension Office
859.257.5582**

****If you have a gluten or
alpha gal allergy please
indicate that when you
call****

CAIP Education Eligible

3:00 — Welcome & Sponsor Recognition

Allison Tucker, Fayette County Agriculture & Natural Resources Extension Agent

University of KY Remarks & Welcome

Dr. Craig Wood, Ast. Director of Extension for Agriculture, Natural Resources & Horticulture

Marketing Update & Outlook

Dr. Kenny Burdine, UK Beef Economic Extension Specialist

4:00 – Bull Management & Selection

Dr. Saulo Zoca, University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Beef Reproduction Extension Specialist

5:00— Emerging Insect Pests

Dr. Hannah Tiffin, UK Extension Entomologist

Dr. Jessie Lay, UK Extension Animal Health Veterinarian

6:15 — Questions/Wrap up

6:30 — Meal

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Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

KENTUCKY GRAZING CONFERENCE - WINCHESTER

📅 October 28, 2025

🕒 7:30am - 3:30pm

📍 Clark County Extension Office



2025 KY GRAZING CONFERENCE AGENDA

- 7:30 AM Registration & Refreshments
- 8:00 AM Welcome
Dr. Ray Smith, University of Kentucky
- 8:15 AM Seven Things That I Have Learned About Profitable Ranching in the Last 45 Years, *Jim Gerrish, American GrazingLands Services*
- 9:15 AM Nutrient Cycling in Grassland Ecosystems
Dr. Ricardo Riberio, University of Kentucky
- 10:00 AM Break & Visit with Sponsors
- 10:30 AM Forage Management for Shifting Weather Patterns
Dr. Chris Teutsch, University of Kentucky
- 11:00 AM Breeding a Functional Cow that Works in Your Environment
Cody Rakes, Loretto Motherhouse Farm
- 11:40 AM Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council Business Meeting & Awards
- 12:00 PM Lunch & Visit with Sponsors
- 1:00 PM Forage Spokesperson Contest/Local Producers
- 2:00 PM What We Have Learned About Bale Grazing
Dr. Greg Halich, University of Kentucky
- 2:45 PM Managing Feed Costs in Ruminant Livestock Production Systems
Jim Gerrish, American GrazingLands Services
- 3:30 PM Adjoin

**** All times local ****

**SPACE IS LIMITED
REGISTER TODAY**

register here:



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

 Cooperative
Extension Service

BUFFALO TRACE COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION SERVICE OFFICES PRESENTS

NOVEMBER 7, 2025

BARNYARD THEATER



FEATURING

DAVID APPELMAN
CHUCK BAILEY
ADAM HINTON
JENNIFER MEADOWS

 **STRAUB ELEMENTARY GYMNASIUM**
387 CHENAULT DRIVE, MAYSVILLE, KY

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

 **4:00PM-5:45PM HEALTH SCREENINGS**

 **6:00PM- DINNER & SHOW**

- FREE CHILDCARE
- GENERAL SCREENINGS
- RESP. FIT TESTING
- VISION CHECK
- FREE GIVEAWAYS
- DRAWING FOR UK TICKETS



**CONTACT YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION
OFFICE FOR YOUR FREE TICKETS AT:**

- BRACKEN COUNTY: (606) 735-2141
- FLEMING COUNTY: (606) 845-4641
- LEWIS COUNTY: (606) 796-2732
- MASON COUNTY: (606) 564-6808
- ROBERTSON CO.: (606) 724-5796

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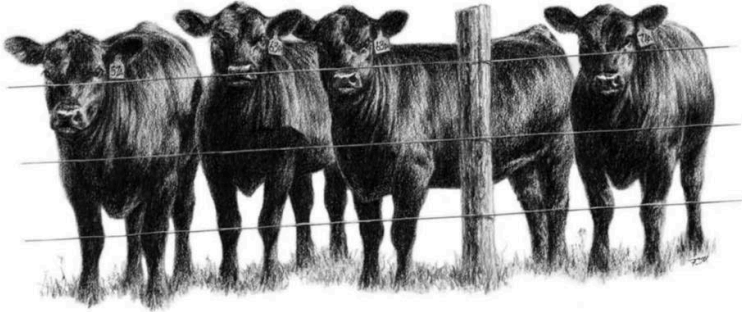
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with prior notification.

Herd Builder Heifer Sale



Friday November 7, 2025

Sell Starts at 6:30 pm

@ The Farmers Stockyards

255 Helena Rd Flemingsburg KY 41041

- > All Heifers will be CAIP eligible
- > Bred to low birth weight, easy calving bulls
- > Pelvic measured and PI test negative

Selling approximately 110 First Calf Heifers (Multiple consignors)

Meal sponsored by Farm Credit

MASON
COUNTY
CATTLEMEN'S
ASSOCIATION



Mason County
Extension Office
6:00



FALL MEETING

****SPEAKER AND TOPIC TO BE ANNOUNCED**!**



dinner & door prizes



Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment

JOIN US!

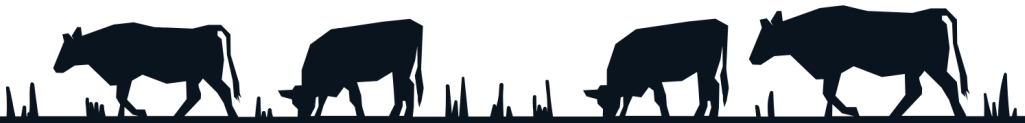
**JOIN
NOW**

MASON
COUNTY
CATTLEMEN'S
ASSOCIATION



As a member, you'll enjoy:

- ✓ Meetings that include a free meal and door prizes
- ✓ Up-to-date information on research, markets, and trends delivered to you through Cow Country News
- ✓ Networking with local producers and industry leaders
- ✓ Educational presentations from specialists at every meeting—focused on topics that pertain to Mason County producers



For more information contact:

- ☎ Audrey Wright (606) 564- 6808
- ☎ President Ronnie Lowe (606)782-5058
- ☎ Treasurer Mike Ravencraft (606)584-0310
- ✉ Email: audrey.wright@uky.edu

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JOIN US!



Cooperative
Extension Service

HOSTED BY: UK EXTENSION OFFICES OF
FLEMING & MASON COUNTIES



TASTE KY WILD



NOVEMBER 14, 2025



MASON CO. EXTENSION OFFICE



11:00AM-1:00PM

**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE: NOV. 7**

SAMPLE WILDLIFE RECIPES

HUNTING & FISHING LICENSE INFO

WILDLIFE ID

SEASONS

WILDLIFE TRACKS & SCAT

GENERAL HARVEST RULES



TO REGISTER: USE THE QR CODE OR CALL (606) 845-4641

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Lexington, KY 40506



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MASON COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING

NOVEMBER 20, 2025
9AM-3:30PM EST

30 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK

 Cooperative
Extension Service

**CALL (606) 845-4641 TO
REGISTER FOR THIS FREE
TRAINING OR REGISTER
USING THE QR CODE:**



This training has been approved by the Kentucky Department of
Agriculture for the following CEU credits in each category:

Category 1A: Agricultural Plant **2 CEUs**

Category 1B: Agricultural Animal **1 CEU**

Category 3: Ornamental & Turf & Lawn Care **1 CEU**

Category 4: Seed Treatment **1 CEU**

Category 6: Right of Way **1 CEU**

LOCATION: VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

MASTER CATTLEMAN PROGRAM

 Cooperative
Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources

PRESENTED BY THE BUFFALO TRACE COUNTIES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICES

THURSDAYS: JANUARY 8–FEBRUARY 12

- 1/8/26: GENETICS (AT MASON COUNTY)
- 1/15/26: MARKETING & PROFITABILITY (AT BRACKEN)
- 1/22/26: HERD HEALTH (AT FLEMING COUNTY)
- 1/29/26: NUTRITION (AT MASON COUNTY)
- 2/5/26: REPRODUCTION & RECORDS (AT LEWIS CO.)
- 2/12/26: FACILITIES & WINTER FEEDING (AT ROBERTSON)



CALL TO REGISTER OR USE
QR CODE:

- BRACKEN COUNTY: (606) 735-2141
- FLEMING COUNTY: (606) 845-4641
- LEWIS COUNTY: (606) 796-2732
- MASON COUNTY: (606) 564-6808
- ROBERTSON CO.: (606) 724-5796

OR
\$100 per
person
\$125 per
couple

MEAL
BEGINS AT
5:30PM

we will serve until a
little after 6pm

REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY: 12/1/25

PROGRAM
6PM-9PM

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IMPORTANT DATES

October 2	Buffalo Trace Farm School- Plumbing 6:00 PM Mason Co Extension Office ✓
October 9	Buffalo Trace Farm School- Plant Diseases 6:00 PM Mason Co Extension Office ✓
October 16	Buffalo Trace Farm School- Poultry 6:00 PM Mason Co Extension Office ✓
October 21	Kentucky Beef Conference 3:00 PM Fayette Co. Extension Office ✓
October 23	Buffalo Trace Farm School- Container Gardening 6:00 PM Mason Co Extension Office ✓
October 30	Kentucky Grazing Conference 7:30 AM Clark County Extension Office ✓
November 7	Barneyard Theater 4:00 PM Straub Elementary
November 7	Herd Builder Heifer Sale 6:30 PM Farmers Stockyards, Flemingsburg
November 13	Mason Co Cattlemen's Meeting 6:00 PM Mason Co Extension Office ✓
November 14	Taste KY Wild 11:00 AM Mason Co Extension Office
November 20	Commercial Pesticide CEU Training 9:00 AM Virtual via Zoom
November 27	Thanksgiving Day- Office Closed
November 28	Office Closed

CAIP Education Eligible ✓



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

Mason County
800 US HWY 68
Maysville, KY 41056
Return Service
Requested

Presorted
Standard
US Postage Paid
Maysville, KY
Permit 10