

FEBRUARY 2024

MCCREARY COUNTY EXTENSION

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER



Buttercup Management in Spring Pastures



One of the signs that spring has arrived is when the yellow flowers of buttercup begin to appear, but it's during the winter months that the vegetative growth of buttercup takes place. As a cool season weed, this plant often flourishes in over grazed pasture fields with poor stands of desirable forages. In fact, many fields that have dense buttercup populations are fields heavily grazed by animals during the fall through the early spring months. Waiting until after flowers appear can be too late to implement control tactics. This is one reason buttercups can survive year to year and new plants emerge each year.

Most buttercup plants emerge from seed during the fall or late winter months. Therefore, pasture management practices that improve and promote growth of desirable plants during these months is one of the best methods to help compete against the emergence and growth of this plant. Whereas, livestock animals allowed to overgraze fields during the fall and winter months is one of the main factors that contribute to buttercup problems.



NUISANCE WEED SPRAY PROGRAM NOW OPEN!

KDA will provide sprayer and enough chemical for the treatment of **10 acres** of agricultural land or **100 gallons** of spot spraying mix

Target: Broadleaf weeds

Maximum of 7 participants per county

Apply online at kyagr.com or contact
McCreary County Extension at
606-376-2524



Mowing fields or clipping plants close to the ground in the early spring before buttercup plants can produce flowers may help reduce the amount of new seed produced, but mowing alone will not totally eliminate seed production.

For chemical control, herbicides registered for use on grass pastures that contain 2,4-D will effectively control buttercup. Depending on other weeds present, products that contain dicamba+2,4-D (eg. Weedmaster), aminopyralid (eg. ForeFront, Milestone), triclopyr (eg. PastureGard, Crossbow), or metsulfuron (eg. Cimarron) can also be used. However, legumes such as clovers interseeded with grass pastures can be severely injured or killed by these herbicide products.

For optimum results apply a herbicide in the early spring (February - March) before flowers are observed, when buttercup plants are still small and actively growing. For best herbicide activity wait until daytime air temperatures are greater than 50 degrees F for two to three consecutive days. Consult the herbicide label for further information on grazing restrictions, precautions, or other possible limitations.

For fields heavily infested with buttercup a variety of control tactics may be needed. Apply a herbicide to help reduce the population of buttercup plants in the spring plus use good pasture management techniques throughout the year to help improve and thicken the stand of desirable forages.



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Follow us!



Upcoming Events McCreary County Extension

Feb 8th, 11:30am
Sr. Citizens Lunch & Learn
Winter Bird Feeding

Feb 13th, 12pm
Library Lunch Program:
Backyard Poultry 101

Feb 13th, 6:30pm
Farm Mgmt Strategies for
Improved Decision-Making,
Cattlemen's Assoc. Meeting

Feb 20th, 5:30pm
Master Gardeners Graduation

State Events:

Feb 8th, 8am - 4:30pm
Kentucky Alfalfa & Stored
Forage Conference
Bowling Green, Ky

For registration info,
contact us at
 606-376-2524
 mcreary.ext@uky.edu



COUNTRY MORNING CASSEROLE



UK Cooperative
Extension Service

Servings: 8, Serving Size: 3-by-3 inch piece

Recipe Cost: \$4.51, Cost per Serving: \$0.56



Ingredients:

2 cups whole-wheat bread, cut into cubes
1 cup shredded low-fat cheddar cheese
6 eggs
1 cup skim milk
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon garlic powder
⅛ teaspoon pepper
1 cup frozen broccoli florets
½ bell pepper, roughly chopped
½ onion, chopped

120 calories; 5g total fat; 2g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 170mg cholesterol; 400mg sodium; 9g carbohydrate; 1g fiber; 3g sugar; 0g added sugar; 12g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 10% Daily Value of calcium; 6% Daily Value of iron; 4% Daily Value of potassium.

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

In a 7-by-11-inch or 9-by-9-inch pan, layer bread cubes and shredded cheddar.

In a medium bowl, mix eggs, milk, salt, garlic powder, pepper and vegetables. Pour over bread.

Bake for approximately one hour (check periodically) or until eggs have set.

Source: Brooke Jenkins-Howard, Extension Specialist, University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service

Get your plant orders in for 2024!

Strawberries
\$6.50/bundle

Blackberries
\$4 each

Blueberries
\$9 each

Raspberries
\$4 each

Asparagus
\$1 each

Onion slips
\$5/bundle

Payment due at time of order
(cash or check only)

For more info, contact
McCreary County Extension

606-376-2524

ANR 4-H News



If you have a child age 9-18 interested in joining McCreary 4-H Shooting Sports, signups begin

FEBRUARY 12TH

New spots available for beginners!

Contact McCreary County Extension at 606-376-2524

Club dues are \$10 annually



McCreary County Extension Office
PO Box 278
Whitley City, KY 42653
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