

APRIL 2025

MCCREARY COUNTY EXTENSION

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER

Spring Preemergence Herbicides

Spring is here, and you might be itching to give your lawn a little TLC. One of the most important (and often overlooked) spring lawn care practices is applying a preemergence herbicide.

If you want a thick, healthy lawn this summer, stop weeds before they even get started. If you wait until you can see them sprouting up, you're already fighting an uphill battle. Postemergence herbicides, which you spray onto actively growing weeds later, can be more expensive and less effective. By applying a preemergence herbicide now, you'll knock out those weed seeds before they even sprout, saving you time, energy and money down the road.

The best time to apply is when the soil temperature at a two-inch depth averages between 50-55°F for about five consecutive days. When those bright yellow flowers are in full bloom, it's usually a good sign that it's time to apply. In Kentucky, this typically happens in March to early April. For the best results, many lawn care professionals recommend a two-application approach. The first should be made when soil temperatures indicate it's time, and



MCCREARY COUNTY FAIR CATALOG IS OUT!

Start planning your county fair entries!
We have categories for youth and adults.

Entries will be accepted starting
May 5th at McCreary County Extension.
Display will be the following week.

Did we mention prizes?
1st place receives \$3, 2nd \$2, and 3rd \$1.
Multiple entries accepted!

Full printed catalogs available at:
McCreary County Extension Office
141 College St.
Whitley City, KY 42653



the second about six to eight weeks later to extend protection throughout the season. Always follow the instructions on the herbicide label to ensure you don't exceed the recommended annual use rate. If you skipped fertilizing in the fall, you can apply a moderate amount of fertilizer in the spring along with your herbicide. Just be careful not to overdo it, or you might end up feeding the weeds instead. Taking a preventative approach now will save you time, money, and frustration later in the season. By applying a preemergence herbicide at the right time and focusing on overall lawn health, you'll be setting yourself up for a lush, weed-free lawn all summer long.

For more information, contact the McCreary County Extension Office.



Tracie Goodman
ANR/4-H Extension Agent
University of Kentucky
McCreary County Cooperative Extension Service
141 College St.- P.O. Box 278
Whitley City, KY 42653
606-376-2524
Tracie.Goodman@uky.edu

UPCOMING EVENTS MCCREARY CO. EXTENSION

Seed Starting
MCPL Lunch & Learn
April 8th, 12pm

McCreary Fun-Makers Meeting
April 8th, 4pm

Artificial Insemination in Cattle
Dr. Travis Sulfridge
April 8th, 6pm

PBPT Training
April 10th, 10am

Gardening Basics: Methods & Styles
April 10th, 5pm

Gardening Safety
April 22nd, 1pm

Scott/McCreary Grow Appalachia
April 24th, 5:30pm
Scott Christian Care Center
Oneida, TN

Get Healthy McCreary Hiking
April 30th, 10am

Call 606-376-2524 for
registration info

Follow us!



Growing Your Own: Potatoes



Check out planeatmove.com for garden info & seasonal recipes!

It's time to plant potatoes!

These varieties grow well in Kentucky: Kennebec (white), Red Pontiac (red), Yukon Gold (yellow), Russian Banana (fingerling).

As a rule, a 10-foot row of plants will yield ~10lbs of potatoes.

Potatoes should be planted using seed potatoes cut into pieces with 1-2 eyes on each. Use one seed piece per foot, planted three to five inches deep.

For mature potatoes, you'll know it is time to harvest when the plants start to die and fall over (~90-140 days depending on variety).

Potatoes can be stored for four to six months after harvest. Good places for storage include an unheated basement, crawl space, or root cellar.



CATTLEMEN'S CORNER

SPRING TIMELY TIPS

Finish up Spring fertilizing in early April and drag pastures to break up and spread manure piles.

Cows that have calved need to be on an adequate nutritional level to rebreed. Increase their feed after calving, and keep feeding until pastures are adequate.

Purchase replacement bulls at least 30 days prior to the start of the breeding season.

Have herd bulls evaluated for breeding soundness.





Ag Spotlight



MCCREARY 4-H THANKS YOU!

Pine Knot Intermediate 4-H Garden Club was able to plant a school garden using the greenhouse donated by McCreary County Farm Bureau and soil donation from the McCreary Conservation District.

Special thank you to McCreary Extension Master Gardener Volunteer, Dora Marlow, and McCreary Central FFA for their donated time and labor to this project.

McCreary County Extension Office
PO Box 278
Whitley City, KY 42653
606-376-2524