

FEBRUARY 2025

MCCREARY COUNTY EXTENSION

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER

Timely Forage Tips

- Remove animals from very wet pastures to limit pugging and soil compaction.
- Feed best hay to animals with highest nutritional needs and supplement poor quality hay as indicated by forage testing.
- Feed hay in areas where mud is less of a problem.
- Feed hay in poor pastures to increase soil fertility and enhance organic matter.
- Consider “bale grazing” — set out hay when the ground is dry or frozen. Use temporary fencing to allocate bales as needed.
- Prepare for pasture renovation by purchasing improved varieties, inoculant, etc. and getting equipment ready.
- Continue grazing stockpiled tall fescue if available.
- Begin frost seeding with 6-8 lb/A red and 1-2 lb/A ladino white clover on closely grazed pastures.
- On pastures with lower fertility, consider adding 10-15 lb/A annual lespedeza to the above recommendation.



KENTUCKY
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

NUISANCE WEED SPRAY PROGRAM NOW OPEN

Treatment of 10 acres of ag land
or
100 gallons of spot spray mix
at no cost

Target: broadleaf weeds

Apply online at www.kyagr.com
Limited spots available!

Contact McCreary County Extension
for more information.

- Consider applying 40-50 lb/A nitrogen in mid-to-late February on some pastures to promote early growth.
- Service and calibrate no-till drills. (contact the extension office for more information)
- If you didn't do this in the fall, soil test and apply lime and fertilizer according to results.

McCreary County Extension offers FREE soil testing for McCreary County residents. Take advantage of this service before seeding any new forages.

For more information, contact Tracie Goodman, McCreary County Agriculture & Natural Resources Extension Agent.



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 ANR/4-H Extension Agent
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 McCreary County Cooperative Extension Service
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UPCOMING EVENTS MCCREARY CO. EXTENSION

Lunch & Learn:
 Beef Jerky
 McCreary Co. Public Library
Feb 11th, 12pm

McCreary Farmers Market
 Vendors Meeting
Feb 11th, 6pm

Soil Testing & Forage
 Establishment
 McCreary Cattlemen's Assoc.
Feb 11th, 6pm

Summer Sausage Workshop
Feb 18th, 6pm
 Whitley County Extension

Scott/McCreary Grow Appalachia
Feb 27th, 5:30pm
 Scott Christian Care Center
 Oneida, TN

**All events located at McCreary County Extension unless stated otherwise.*

Call 606-376-2524 for more info

Follow us!



Growing Your Own: Spinach

In Eastern Kentucky, you can begin planting Spinach as early as February 20th.

It is best to direct-sow spinach seeds into the garden. Space rows of spinach 12 to 14 inches apart.

You can also grow spinach in pots or containers. Choose containers at least six to eight inches deep and wide, or plant in a long trough. Spinach likes a sunny location but can also grow in areas with some shade.

To harvest, cut the whole plant to the soil surface once the spinach reaches four to six inches across, or cut older, larger leaves and let smaller leaves grow.



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



NOW TAKING PLANT ORDERS!

Strawberries- \$7 bundle of 25

Blackberries- \$5 each

Blueberries- \$9 each

Asparagus- \$1 each crown

Onions- \$5 bundle of 60 slips

Raspberries- \$5 each

***Prepayment required by
March 7th. Plants expected to
arrive first week of April.***

**Call 606-376-2524 or
stop by our office for more info!**

MCCREARY JR. CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Our Jr. Cattlemen's Association chapter attended their first Kentucky Cattlemen's Association Convention in Owensboro, Ky.

Youth are the future of agriculture and we are so proud to have them represent McCreary County and KJCA!

Special thank you to Josiah, Karson, Elijah, and Ross for selling extra t-shirts to fund the trip!



McCreary County Extension Office
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