



Lyon County Ag Newsletter

December, 2022

Upcoming Events

- **Private Applicator's License Update, Mon. Dec. 12, 6:30 PM**
- **Backgrounding Cattle Short Course, Dec. 15-16, Versailles, KY**
- **BQCA Update, Thurs., Dec. 15, 6:00 PM**
- **CPH Advantage Feeder Calf Sales, Tuesdays, Dec. 13, Feb. 14.**
- **KY Fruit and Vegetable Conference, Jan. 3-4**
- **Winter Wheat Meeting, Jan. 5**
- **Ag Advancement Council, January 9, 6:00 PM**
- **KY Commodity Conference, Bowling Green, Jan. 19**
- **CoCoRAHS Volunteer Precipitation Reporting, January 26, 6:30 PM**
- **Intensive Soybean Workshop, Feb. 1, Princeton**
- **Crop Health Conference, Feb. 9, Corvette Museum, Bowling Green**
- **Grouping Beef Animals for Feeding, Cost Savings—Katie Van Valin, University of Kentucky Beef Nutrition Specialist, Feb. 21, 6:00 PM**
- **KY Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference, Feb. 21, Cave City**

Dear Lyon County Farmer,

Private Applicator's Licenses and BQCA Updates are scheduled for December. 12 and 15. Please call if you plan to attend, 270-388-2341.

You can have fields tested for soybean cyst nematodes free of charge courtesy of the KY Soybean Association. I am willing to pull some of these samples as time and weather conditions permit. It was too dry to do this over the fall but samples can be taken over the winter. If you prefer to pull samples yourself I have the guidelines here at the office.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Fox
Lyon County Extension Agent for ANR



West KY Select Bred Heifer Sale Results – November 19, 2022

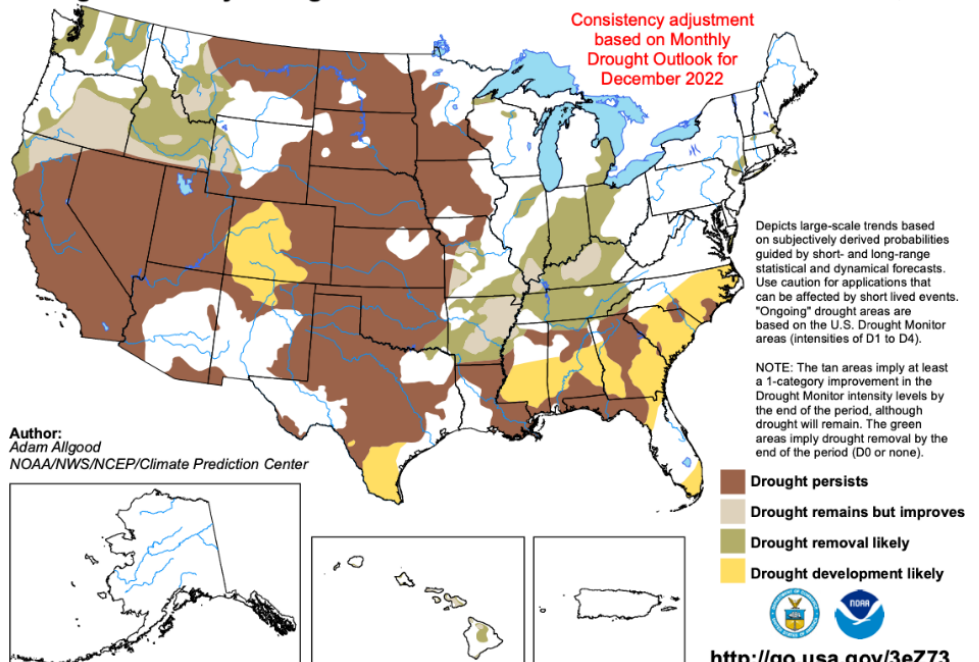
KY-TN Livestock – Guthrie, KY
Heifers due to calve Jan – April

No. Head	Breed Type	Avg Price
93	Angus cross	1,841
16	Angus	1,786
22	Black-White Face	2,117
15	SimAngus cross	1,965
21	Gelbvieh-Angus cross	2,082
1	Red Gelbvieh	2,200
18	Beefmaster-Angus cross	1,804
19	Ultrablacks (Brangus-Angus)	1,833
205	Head/Average	\$1,898

Notes: Prices ranged from \$1,700 - \$2,350 (38 buyers)
136 head below the sale average sold at an average of \$1,802
69 head above the sale average sold at an average of \$2,086
30 AI bred heifers averaged \$2,023
21 AI sired heifers averaged \$2,117
15 AI sired and AI bred averaged \$2,088

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for December 1, 2022 - February 28, 2023
Released November 30, 2022



Pasture, Rangeland, and Forage Insurance as a Risk Management Tool

Dr. Kenny Burdine, Extension Professor, Livestock Marketing, UK

The most recent drought monitor, released on October 27th, shows the majority of the United States dealing with drought, or abnormally dry, conditions. While I sincerely hope some of those regions received some much needed rain recently, I do think this provides an opportunity to discuss Pasture, Rangeland, and Forage (PRF) Insurance. PRF insurance provides an opportunity for producers to purchase rainfall coverage for perennial forages used for pasture and / or hay production. Producers have until December 1st to enroll for 2023, so I thought I would focus this discussion on three reminders for producers as they consider PRF insurance for the upcoming year.



PRF is a Single-Peril Index Insurance Product—Producers first need to understand that indemnities from PRF are not based on rainfall at their farm, but rather on actual and historical rainfall for a 0.25 degree latitude by 0.25 degree longitude grid, where their farm is located. Daily rainfall for each grid is collected through NOAA weather stations and used by the program. Certainly, there should be a correlation between rainfall amounts for a given grid and the farms within it, but variability will exist. This variability creates a type of “basis” risk that isn’t that different than an insurance product like Livestock Risk Protection Insurance, which pays based on changes in the CME® Feeder Cattle Index, rather than local prices. It is also important to understand that PRF insurance does not protect against extremely high rainfall levels, or any other challenge that might impact forage production. It simply provides coverage for less than normal rainfall levels over 2 month periods during the year.

The Premium Subsidy for PRF is Significant—The premium subsidy levels for PRF depend on the level of coverage that is selected, but exceed 50% in all cases. The USDA Risk Management Agency (USDA-RMA) has intended for this to be relatively affordable so that farmers will be more likely to utilize it. While indemnities may not be received in a given year, the subsidy levels suggest that indemnities should exceed premium levels over a large number of years. Given this, producers may want to consider scaling the coverage upward to increase the base value per acre they are insuring. Base values per acre can be increased by up to 150% by increasing the productivity factor.

Multiple Approaches are Possible for Covered Months—Finally, I think it is important that producers give some thought to the months they want to cover. Producers must select coverage in a minimum of two, two-month periods and can place no more than 60% of their coverage value in any single two-month interval. A month also may not be double-covered. For example, one cannot cover the June-July interval and the July-August interval, because July is double-covered. However, one could put 60% of the value in a two month interval that included July.

A logical approach would be to cover months in which rainfall and forage productivity are of the most concern. For example, someone may choose to cover June-July and August-September, if they are concerned about the summer months. A producer who is more dependent on fall pasture growth to stockpile forage may choose to stretch coverage into the fall months. Producers should also discuss this with their insurance agent as they are likely to have valuable insights as well. Most importantly, producers should give this some thought and be deliberate about this decision.

While no insurance product is perfect, PRF insurance does provide producers with a relatively inexpensive opportunity to get some protection against less than normal rainfall levels. Producers have until December 1st to sign up for coverage for the 2023 calendar year, so the time is right to be thinking about it. In addition to talking with your insurance agent, a great deal of information can be found on the PRF page of the USDA-RMA website at <https://www.rma.usda.gov/en/Policy-and-Procedure/Insurance-Plans/Pasture-Rangeland-Forage>.

UK Beef Management Webinars

Darrh Bullock, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky

December 13, 2022 -**Packer and Consumer Trends with Some Holiday Beef Ideas** – Gregg Rentfrow, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky and Alison Smith, Kentucky Beef Council Retail and Foodservice, 7:00 PM CT. Registration is necessary if you have not registered in the past (If you have ever received an invitation then you should be registered). If you would like to register, please send an email to dbullock@uky.edu with Beef Webinar in the subject line and your name and county in the message. You will receive the direct link with a password the morning of each meeting. This invitation will directly link you to the site and you will be asked for the password which can be found just below the link.



The library of all UK beef related videos, including past webinars, can be found at: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLC5aJFY_Be8XJZ_03_Q173TK0826T8Fjq

December Tips & Tidbits



Environment

- Monitor your hay feeding area closely. Move feeders often if you are not using a high traffic area pad.
- Move horses to the sacrifice lot during wet periods or times the grass cover is poor and sod is likely to be damaged or destroyed by traffic.
- Provide adequate fresh clean water from a suitable source.

Mares and Lights

- Horses are seasonal breeders that only cycle during specific times of the year.
- Also known as “long-day breeders,” mares come into heat during periods of increased daylight, such as late spring and summer.
- Artificial lighting should increase the overall length of daylight to 14 to 16 hours. In practice, lights are generally turned on at the beginning and end of each night; some research suggests that artificial evening light alone may be sufficient to elicit a reproductive response.
- Place mares under lights at least 8 to 10 weeks before you wish to breed.
- Make sure the intensity of the light source is strong enough to affect the mare’s reproductive system. A plain 100-W incandescent bulb in a 12 x 12 ft. box stall is sufficient.
- Lights can also be installed in an outdoor paddock, using one light source to affect a larger number of mares.

Breed and Other Association Memberships

- Pay your dues for the upcoming year.
- Know the rules for each association you are a member of. It is your responsibility to be up to date for all programs you wish to participate in.
- Apply for any breeder’s incentive programs you are eligible for.
- Check on any year end awards programs and apply for all that you are eligible for.

Water Systems in Winter

- If using water troughs, install tank heaters and make sure they are working. There are many types of heaters, such as floating, submersible or drain plug.
- Keep horses away from tank heaters and electric cords.
- If using water heaters in the barn, check often and do not let the buckets run dry.
- If using pasture waterers, make sure all water lines are insulated from cold air and the tank is in good working order.
- If temperatures are below freezing, check watering systems frequently to make sure water is available to horses.
- More horses on one waterer will increase the flow rate and decrease the chance of freezing.

Forages

- Continue grazing of stockpiled cool season grass pastures that are available.
- Begin feeding hay as efficiently as possible.
- Use a suitable hay feeder for your horses.



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

Kentucky Crop Health Conference

Feb. 9, 2023 - National Corvette Museum - Bowling Green, Ky.

Speakers include University of Kentucky Extension Specialists
and invited nationally prominent Extension Specialists from across the United States



Travis Faske

University of Arkansas

*Topic: Frontline Tactics to
Manage Southern Rust of Corn*



Kelly Hamby

University of Maryland

*Topic: Managing insect pests of
grain using neonicotinoid seed
treatments*



Larry Steckel

University of Tennessee

*Topic: Managing glyphosate-
resistant and hard to kill grasses in
Tennessee*

Kiersten A. Wise

University of Kentucky

*Topic: Tar spot in
Kentucky: Is it time to
panic?*



Carl Bradley

University of Kentucky

*Topic: What we have learned
from nearly 2 decades of
research on foliar fungicides
of soybean*

Travis Legleiter

University of Kentucky

*Topic: Management of Italian
ryegrass in a Kentucky grain
crop rotation*



Raul Villanueva

University of Kentucky

*Topic: Mollusks: Frequency,
biological control, and
management in soybeans*



Scan QR Code to register or visit:

<https://kentuckycrophealthconference2023.eventbrite.com>

Registration ends Feb. 1, 2023

Limited to 100 participants — Lunch included — CCA and KY Pesticide Applicator credits available