

Kentucky

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KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS

Volume 12 • No. 6

August 2013

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Cover Photo by Roger Nesbitt

Kentucky Farm Bureau News is published ten times per year. Combined issues for December-January and June-July are sent to all members. The remaining eight issues go to regular members. Bulk postage rate paid at Lebanon Junction, Ky. Changes in address should be mailed to KFB Communications Division, PO Box 20700, Louisville, Ky. 40250.

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The farm bill passed by the U.S. House of Representatives last month kept the agricultural agenda moving toward sound policy for rural Kentucky. However, there is still more work to be done. We look forward to seeing a five-year farm bill come to fruition and having it signed by President Obama, firmly establishing a comprehensive farm policy with the safety net that will ensure our food supply.



The farm bill obviously has significant impact to farmers, but its reach is much broader than just agriculture. It supports agricultural research and extension programs, upgrades water and sewer lines, expands energy efficiency programs and provides the overall infrastructure needed for a variety of other rural development projects.

Strategies important in moving the farm bill can be difficult. While it was not ideal to split the farm bill from the nutrition program, we will continue to work with the Kentucky Congressional delegation to see a viable safety net established for agriculture.

Farm interests should be concerned with the House's repeal of permanent law that historically served as the incentive for national farm bills to be reauthorized. As a result, future sessions of Congress might decide there is no need to revisit national farm policy, and that is simply unacceptable. If current permanent law is repealed, it must be replaced with new permanent law that does not contain any "sunset" provisions.

Among the many positives contained in the farm bill proposals is increased focus on "specialty crops" such as fruits and vegetables. The value of specialty crop production in the U.S. is significant, accounting for approximately 17 percent of the \$391 billion in agriculture cash receipts collected in 2012.

Programs for specialty crop farmers include outreach and training on Good Agriculture Practices aimed at improving food safety, traceability and productivity; initiatives for pest and plant disease control; and improving direct-to-consumer retail opportunities. Programs that help bring fruits and vegetables produced within a state to local schools also are part of the farm bill, as is the Farmers' Market Promotion Program.

At a time when interest in local foods is soaring, this is promising news for consumers. It's good to see our government recognizes that stimulating sales and protecting the economic viability of these "specialty crops" warrants the same attention as our major crops.

Mark Haney

President

Kentucky Farm Bureau



KFB Directors visit innovative ag school

During their July meeting in Lexington, KFB Directors toured the highly acclaimed Locust Trace Agriscience Farm and School that the Fayette County Public School System developed to prepare high school students for careers in agriculture and the equine industry. The \$18.2 million campus is located on 82 acres donated by the federal government on Leestown Road.

Locust Trace students can register for courses in equine studies, agriculture power mechanics, plant and land science, small and large animal science plus a veterinary assistant program. Students work directly with crops and animals at the site. In addition to classrooms, the property has a veterinary clinic, arena barn, livestock barn, greenhouses and community gardens. The property is

known for setting a good environmental example; it is minimally connected to water, sewage and power sources, relying instead on such things as solar panels, geothermal technology, cisterns, wells and constructed wetlands.

Fayette County FB strongly supported the development of Locust Trace. In 2012 it sponsored a foreign agriculture study mission for a Locust Trace agriscience teacher.

Joe Norman, who is principal of the Locust Trace School, credited Fayette County FB with pushing for the much-needed project. "Through their leadership, Farm Bureau helped get this off the ground," he said.

Jim Mahan, a longtime leader within Fayette County FB and a former KFB Director, told the group that Fayette



Former KFB Director and longtime Fayette County FB leader Jim Mahan spoke about the evolution of the agriscience farm.

County didn't have an FFA chapter or Vo-Ag program for many years prior to the development of the project. Norman said the school system's only agriculture program was dropped in the mid-1970s.

"That was very frustrating to us," said Mahan, who was instrumental in obtaining funding for the facility's livestock facility. "Many of us old farmers here really hammered on this for years. It was quite a thrill to see this happen."

The school has around 180 students but eventually will have a capacity of 400. Locust Trace has been endorsed by the National Association for Veterinary Technicians in America to offer approved vet assistant certification. It is among only a handful of high school programs in the nation offering the certification.



Kentucky Farm Bureau is a voluntary organization of farm families and their allies dedicated to serving as the voice of agriculture by identifying problems, developing solutions and taking actions which will improve net farm income, achieve better economic opportunities and enhance the quality of life for all.

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KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS

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| Editor | Roger Nesbitt |
| Art Director | David Brown |
| | Pioneer Publishing |
| | Lexington, KY |

comment

C O L U M N

Over the years the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation has changed its program of work to keep in tune with the needs of farm families and our agricultural industry. Our women's program has been part of this transformation and therefore continues to play an essential role for our wonderful organization.

Farm Bureau women organize and support many activities on the local, state and national levels. Policy, of course, is the top priority at Farm Bureau.

I am pleased to report that our women's program has evolved to where we actively participate in priority issues and often make the difference in our successes. This has been an area of great progress for Farm Bureau women.

However, promoting agricultural education remains the priority within our women's program. We are excited about where we stand today, not only with delivering agriculture's message, but also with educating our youth about agriculture's role in our society and encouraging them to pursue careers in our industry.

We are accomplishing these goals with an effective array of programs and activities. One of the most successful and inspiring things is the series of teacher workshops that KFB conducts each summer at sites throughout the state. Thousands of teachers have participated in this opportunity to discover how they can utilize agricultural lessons to enhance learning within a core curriculum. They tell us these workshops have motivated them to broaden their students' educational experience.

In tandem with that tremendous program, we strongly support the National Ag in the Classroom program which helps students gain a broad-based knowledge of our food system. We promote the distribution of the program materials and have been willing volunteers as ag ambassadors in the schools. Farm Bureau women are instrumental in planning farm tours, school agriculture fairs and other special events in their communities.

KFB also provides opportunities from county and state levels for our young people to compete for scholarships, cash awards and other prizes through our outstanding youth and variety show programs. Many of our leaders have participated in the outstanding youth contests. This and other leadership development programs like the Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders (IFAL) have greatly benefitted our organization.

Last but certainly not least, KFB women enthusiastically support Kentucky's FFA and 4-H programs. We've been proud sponsors of a number of their programs for many years and are always willing to lend support.

Our commitment to education and leadership development is driven by an understanding of the importance of developing tomorrow's leaders, of generating an interest in agricultural careers (especially in production agriculture on the farm) and of expanding the general public's knowledge of agriculture and its significance. These are lofty initiatives. I'm proud to say that Farm Bureau women have stepped up to the task.



Phyllis Amyx

Chair

KFB Women's Committee

KFB Day

at State Fair is
August 22

KFB Day at the State Fair is Thursday, August 22 with a full schedule of activities for members.

The 50th Annual Kentucky Country Ham Breakfast and Auction will be held in South Wing Conference Center beginning at 7:30 a.m. The grand champion country ham will be auctioned with proceeds donated to charity. Last year's champion ham from Scott Hams fetched \$300,000. In its history the auction has raised more than \$6.5 million for charities.

The annual Gospel Quartet Contest begins shortly following the breakfast and will be held on the South Wing stage.

The Farm Bureau picnic begins at noon in the South Wing.

KFB Insurance Company sponsors the popular "Pride of the Counties" section of the South Wing, where local organizations promote their cities and counties with lively displays. A winning display is named each year during a ceremony at 11 p.m. on KFB Day. KFB Insurance also participates in the FFA/4-H Sale of Champions that afternoon in Newmarket Hall.



Among the popular attractions at the Kentucky State Fair is an inch-thick pork chop, marinated in a vinagry-peppery sauce and grilled to perfection by the Kentucky Pork Producers Association cooking team. Unlike most cookouts, this is serious business: Sales of the famous chops -- along with the pork burgers and pulled pork sandwiches that are also served by the KPPA at events -- account for about half of the organization's annual revenue.

Plus there's a reputation to uphold, says Wendell Ockerman, who as Director of Product Marketing and Special Events has headed up the cooking team for 26 years.

"People have come to look for us here," Ockerman said of the Kentucky Exposition

Center, where the team operates at more than 50 events each year. "People tell me they come to the Fair to get a pork chop."

Grilling chops at fairs and festivals started out as a casual thing more than three decades ago. But the emergence of the 12-ounce pork loin marinated in a secret sauce, followed years later by a spicy pork burger, propelled the KPPA booths to icon status at the state fairgrounds. As the State Fair approaches, media reports mention the pork sandwich in the same breath as Freddy Farm Bureau, funnel cakes, blue ribbons and the World Championship Horse Show.

For major events like the State Fair and National Farm Machinery Show, KPPA will operate five booths and use around

Pork perfection



KPPA fare is a hot commodity

75 workers to cook and serve. Most will be volunteers.

The regular team has about 18 paid members, Ockerman said.

The team used to travel the state, but now is mostly confined to Louisville for events at KEC plus University of Louisville football games at nearby Papa John's Stadium. Ockerman and the cooking team operate out of an office on the western edge of the KEC, near Gate 2. The Kentucky Cattlemen's and Aquaculture Associations also are housed there.

The KPPA cooking arsenal consists of two 24-foot-long automatic rotisserie-style units that can do 480 chops in 45 minutes, plus five 20-foot flat grills. KPPA buys its pork from Swift Company in Louisville and has the chops and burgers pro-

cessed by a local company. Ockerman guards both the sauce's secret recipe and the seasoning for the tasty pork burgers. The burgers, which Ockerman developed, are quite popular too. But the chops are still the main attraction, accounting for about 60 percent of sales, according to Ockerman.

Pleasing the thousands of pork-craving State Fairgoers warrants the use of both rotisserie units and evokes a question: How much pork is cooked??

Ockerman says in an average year the KPPA team will cook around 100,000 pounds. (On a liveweight at slaughter basis, that amounts to around 400 hogs. The actual number of hogs rendering that poundage of meat is far higher, of course)



Above, Wendell Ockerman has been cooking for KPPA for over 30 years.

Top of page, clockwise from left, Jeff Schum, Carl Russell, Tom Watson and Larry Alvis cook chops for a recent event at the Kentucky Exposition Center.

YOUNG FARMER SUMMER OUTING



The young farmers checked out the dark fired tobacco at Cundiff Farms in Trigg County, which is growing 170 acres of the crop this year.

Photos by Carilynn Gravatte

A large group of young farmers and their family members participated in the annual summer outing that is part of KFB's Young Farmer Program. This year's venue was the Hopkinsville area, where the group took in a variety of sites.

The popular Saturday afternoon farm tours had five options. The stops included Country Barn Roadside Market, Broadbent B&B Foods, Christian Way Farm, the Breathitt Veterinary Center, Fairview Produce Auction, Consolation Farms, CommonwealthAgriEnergy ethanol plant, Hopkinsville Grain Elevator, Air-Gas Inc., Roeder Implement Company, Garnett Farms, Cundiff Farms and Hampton Meats. A kid-friendly tour went to "The Homeplace" at Land Between the Lakes.

Agriculture Commissioner James Comer addressed the group at the traditional "Eggs and Issues" breakfast. He provided an update on Agriculture Department activities, including the new "Udderly Kentucky" program to promote milk from Kentucky dairy farms.

Public Affairs Director Jeff Harper then outlined federal and state issues before the young farmers formed groups by districts to discuss policy recommendations.

Another highlight was a Saturday night family cookout at Tom Folz Farm. The fun-filled evening featured live music, games, children's activities and plenty of good food.

The Friday agenda included the first few rounds of the Discussion Meet, with a group of four finalists emerging from three rounds. The finalists, who will compete at the state annual meeting in December, are Casey Story of Fleming County, Janella Miller of Pulaski County, Mary Courtney of Shelby County and Cameron Edwards of Webster County.

Finalists for the Outstanding Young Farm Family award for 2013 were announced. They are Dustin and Tammy White of Union County, Shane and Mary Courtney of Shelby County and Jonathan and Jessica Gaskins of Adair County.

The state winners of these programs will compete nationally at the AFBF annual meeting in January. The Discussion Meet winner gets a choice of a 2014 Chevrolet Silverado or 2014 GMC Sierra. Three finalists receive a Case IH Farmall 55A and a \$2,500 cash prize and \$500 in STIHL merchandise.

The same prizes apply for the Achievement Award winner and finalists, except the three finalists receive a Farmall 65A model. GM, Farmall and STIHL have been dedicated sponsors of these programs, as well as the "Excellence in Agriculture" awards for young farmers.




A helicopter was used to spray crops at Cundiff Farms.



One of the tour stops was the Hopkinsville facility for Ag Spray Equipment, a leading manufacturer and supplier.



Hopkinsville Elevator Company was among the stops on the Saturday tours. It is a highly successful farmer-owned cooperative.



2013 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Over 250 Kentucky students have been chosen to receive college scholarship grants totaling from county and state programs administered through the Kentucky Farm Bureau Education Foundation and by individual county Farm Bureaus. The scholarships, offered annually, were awarded to recipients who displayed the greatest levels of academic excellence, involvement in extracurricular activities, leadership abilities and financial need. Scholarship sponsors and the recipients are:

Sam Moore Scholarship – \$4,000

Awarded to a student attending a Kentucky college/university and pursuing a four-year degree in animal health/veterinary technology or a related field.

- Allison Cropper, Maysville St. Patrick High School

Leadership in Agriculture Scholarships – \$3,000 each

Awarded to students of farm families attending a Kentucky college or university.

- Katherine Simpson, Garrard County High School; Spencer Hammond, Collins High School.

Paul D. Everman Fund for Lifetime Learning Scholarship – \$3,000

Awarded to a non-traditional student who is interested in pursuing a four-year course of study at a Kentucky college/university.

- Christy Husband, University of Louisville

KFB Young Farmer Scholarship – \$2,000

Awarded to a college upperclassman. Student must be attending a Kentucky college/university and majoring in agriculture or a related field.

- Emily Drury, University of Kentucky

KFB Young Farmer Scholarship – \$1,000

Awarded to a college upperclassman for the 2011-12 school year. Student must be attending a Kentucky college/university and majoring in agriculture or a related field.

- Melissa Schenck, Murray State University

Beautification League of Louisville Scholarship – \$1,000

Awarded to a student attending a Kentucky college/university and pursuing a four-year degree in horticulture or landscape architecture.

- Helen Quarles, Shelby County High School

KFB Mutual Insurance Company Scholarships – \$2,000 each

- Mikayla Grider, Monroe County High School; Chelsea King, Cumberland County High School

KFB Insurance Agents Association Scholarship – \$1,000

- William White, Firm Foundation Home School; Allison Bryant, Garrard County

KFB Federation Scholarships – \$1,000 each

- Savanna Simons, Bracken County High School; Susan Bailey, Breckinridge County; Tawni Gray, Lyon County High School; Rachel Ross, Calloway County High School; Melissa Jackson, Newport High School; Allison Ware, Casey County High School; Jeremy Ball, Clay County High School; Kileen Hoppe, Clinton County High School; Maranda Perdue, Cumberland County High School; Bayli Boling, Daviess County High School; Kendra Hennion, Edmonson County High School; Mary Wood, Western Hills High School; Morgan Potter, Williamstown High School; Madison Sidebottom, Green County High School; Shelby Highbaugh, Central Hardin High School; Susan Darnell, Harrison County High School; Morgan Davis, Henderson County High School; Jarod Wylie, Lee County High School; Alexandria Miller, South Laurel High School; Jonathan Hardwick, Lincoln County High School; Haley Reichenbach, Lincoln County High School; Caroline Milam, Logan County High School; Elizabeth Jerrell, Heath High School; Philip Keltner, Metcalfe County High School; Chandler Young, Nelson County High School; Shelby Lyons, Southwestern High School; Amanda Cooper, Russell County High School; Grace Arnold, Campbellsville High School; Hannah Conner, Warren East High School; Candace Kimball, Washington County High School.

Allen County Farm Bureau - \$1,000 each

- Abigail Chandler, Allen County Scottsville High School

Anderson County Farm Bureau - \$1,500 each

- Emily Drury, University of Kentucky; and Luke Warford, Christian Academy of Lawrenceburg.

Ballard County Farm Bureau - \$500 each

- Sydney Cooper, Clay Chandler, Haley Bass, Jordan Grace, Allison Bohn, Allie Wildharber, Keryn Ann Cunningham and Erin Stewart, Ballard Memorial High School

Barren County Farm Bureau - \$500 each

- Megan Fields and Trevor Baise, Barren County High School; Corey Wooten, Glasgow High School.

Bell County Farm Bureau - \$1,000 each

- Courtney Partin, Alexandria Knuckles and Seth Jeffrey, Pineville High School; Haley Goodman, Timothy Fultz, Morgan Robbins, Michael Huddleston, Amber Slusher and Mikayla Raines, Bell County High School; Megan Prater, Justus Wesloh, Kelsie Hensley and Danielle Cunningham, Middlesboro High School.

Boone County Farm Bureau - \$1,000 each

- Thomas Gerding, Cooper High School; Mackenzie Grubbs, Walton Verona High School

Breckinridge County Farm Bureau – \$1,000 each

- Haley Loughran, Breckinridge County High School; Joseph Carter Smith, Frederick Fraize High School.

Bullitt County Farm Bureau Young Farmers Scholarships – \$2,000 each

- Melanie Bleemel, Michaela LaCoursiere and James Stottman, Bullitt Central High School; Keenan Cischke, Bullitt East High School

Calloway County Farm Bureau -- \$500 each

- Charles Graves, Murray High School; Hannah O'Bryan and Rachel Ross, Calloway County High School.

Campbell County Farm Bureau – \$1,000 each

- Derek Cryer, Michael Lauer, Caitlin Rauch and Abigail Rawlings, Campbell County High School

Casey County Farm Bureau -- \$500

- Skyler Wright, Casey County High School

Christian County Farm Bureau – \$2,000 each

- Alexis Bozell, Hopkinsville High School; Amie Jones, Heritage Christian Academy; Whitney Martin, Christian County High School and Chandler West, University Heights Academy.

Crittenden County Farm Bureau – \$1,000 each

- Elizabeth Brown, Ethan Hill, Robert Knox and Alyssa Leet, Crittenden County High School

Cumberland County Farm Bureau -- \$500 each

- Paige Young and Kurtis Spears, Cumberland County High School

Edmonson County Farm Bureau -- \$2,000

- James Bullock, Edmonson County High School

Fayette County Farm Bureau – \$20,000 (\$2,500 per semester)

- Madison Copher, Bates Creek High School; Lauren Guilfoil, Bryan Station High school.

Fayette County Farm Bureau Vocational/Technical Scholarships - \$2,500 (\$625 per semester)

- Danielle Milbern, Dunbar High School

Floyd County Farm Bureau -- \$2,000 each

- Katharine Greene, Lynette Brooke Hall, Courtney Hodge and John Gullett, plus \$1,000 to Tamera Harris.

Garrard County Farm Bureau - \$2,000

- Katherine Simpson, Garrard County High School

Grant County Farm Bureau – \$500 each

- Kayla Cummins, Grant County High School; Emma Napier and Morgan Potter, Williamstown High School.

Grayson County Farm Bureau - \$500 each

- Brandon Armstrong, Harleigh Barnett, Amber Dotson, Rebecca Dunaway, Justin Gallagher, Taylor Higdon, Damon Jones, Logan Nichols, Dylan Peteet, Elizabeth Priddy, Ethan Saltsman, Andrew Vincent and Jessika Young, Grayson County High School

Hardin County Farm Bureau – \$1,000 each

- Alexis Skaggs, John Hardin High School; Marie Noel, FAITH Home School Group; Katherine Hall, Baylee Sullivan, Jansen Ellis-Reeves, Dylan Gipson, Shelby Highbaugh, Danielle Heibert, Eden Tharpe and Katie Bowles, Central Hardin High

School; Lauren Riney, Morgan Dalton and Sydney Davis, Elizabethtown High School; Kelsey Dunkin, North Hardin High School and Caleb Thomas, Western Kentucky University.

Harlan County Farm Bureau -- \$1,250 each

- Lauren Hogue, Mariah Lewis, Lacey Doyle and Breana Dunson.

Harrison County Farm Bureau – \$1,000 each

- Kyle Foster, Joseph Paul Bush and Rebecca Switzer, Harrison County High School

Henderson County Farm Bureau - \$500 each

- Mitchell Berry, Madison Clary, Paul Blandford, Kelsey Friedls, Katherine Dawson and Demetrius carter, Henderson County High School; Talon Roy, Webster County Farm Bureau.

Henry County Farm Bureau -- \$500 each

- Savannah Allgeier, Thomas Pollard, Brenna Raisor and Brock Fish

Hickman County Farm Bureau – \$500 each

- Haley Bizzle and Logan Dillard, Hickman County High School

Hopkins County Farm Bureau – \$2,000 each

- Rebecca Niestrath and Rachel Stockton, Madisonville North Hopkins High School; Kinsley Driver, Hopkins County Central High School

Jackson County Farm Bureau -- \$1,000 each

- Kelsey Nicholson and Emily Sizemore, Jackson County High School

Jefferson County Farm Bureau – \$1,000 each

- Hannah Wurth, Assumption High School; Austin Gocke, Trinity High School, Amanda Hegstad, Eastern High School and Taylor Ohlmann, Male High School.

Jefferson County Farm Bureau - \$16,000 each

- Shelby Miller, Miller Academy Home School and Daniel Keairns, Academy for Individual Excellence.

Knott County Farm Bureau – \$1,000

- Kennedy King, Knott County Central High School

Laurel County Farm Bureau – \$2,400 each

- Elizabeth Walden, South Laurel High School

Letcher County Farm Bureau - \$500 each

- Autumn Adams, Julianne Cornett, Kelah Eldridge, Sydney Meade, Austin Sparkman, Chelsa Wright and Courtney Wright, Letcher County Central High School; Jacob Cornett, Harlan County High School.

Livingston County Farm Bureau - \$1,000 each

- Courtney Duncan, Destiny Lee and Hunter Wright, Livingston Central High School

Logan County Farm Bureau – \$500

- Caroline Milam, Logan County High School

Madison County Farm Bureau - \$1,000 each

- Kelsey Choate and Maggie Collins, Madison Southern High School; Ashley Roy, Richmond Model Laboratory.

Magoffin County Farm Bureau – \$1,000

- Linzi Watson, Magoffin County High School



Marion County Farm Bureau – \$500 each

- Michael Sandusky, Levi Haydon, Megan Lewis, Whitney Jo Smith and Courtney Flanagan, Marion County High School

Martin County Farm Bureau - \$1,000 each

- Megan Dials and Hayley Fitch, Sheldon Clark High School

McCracken County Farm Bureau – \$1,000 each

- Andrew Bell and Erin McIntyre, Lone Oak High School.

Menifee County Farm Bureau -- \$500 each

- Katlyn Brown, Tessa Henry, Celena Moore, Megan Lane, Erney Justice, Riley Liar, Jason Ginter and Michell Porter.

Mercer County Farm Bureau – \$1,000

- Alexander McRay, Mercer County High School

Mercer County Farm Bureau Young Farmer Scholarship - \$1,000

- Ashton Jones, Mercer County High School

Monroe County Farm Bureau – \$1,000 each

- Matthew Payne and Mikayla Grider, Monroe County High School

Montgomery County Farm Bureau -- \$4,000

- Baylee Newsome, Montgomery County High School

Morgan County Farm Bureau – \$2,000 (over 8 semesters)

- Brianna Lindon, Morgan County High School

Morgan County-Larry Smith Memorial -- \$2,000 (over 8 semesters)

- Donovan McGraw, Morgan County High School

Muhlenberg County Farm Bureau – \$1,000 each

- Victoria Mohon and John Daniel Day.

Nelson County Farm Bureau – \$600 each

- Wesley Barnett, Lisa Baron, Steven Baron, Brittany Bowling, Audrey Coomes, Patrick Cundiff, Thomas Foster, Madeline Hahn, Miranda Jo Goff, Hannah Hardin, Sabrina Johnson, Hannah Miles, Tyler Paulley, Steven Portman, Melissa Schenck, Addison Wheatley and Chandler Young, Nelson County High School; Madison Salsman, Brooke Hutchins, Margaret Greenwell, Jakob Greenwell, Barrett Greenwell, Joseph Filiatreau and Callie Filiatreau, Bethlehem High School; and Kelsey Wiseman, Bardstown High School.

Oldham County Farm Bureau – \$2,000

- Kristen Rowling, Oldham County High School

Oldham County Farm Bureau Boyd Johnson Honorary Scholarship – \$3,000

- Kaya Kelly, Oldham County High School

Oldham County Farm Bureau Current College Student Scholarship – \$2,000

- Judith Deibel, Bellarmine University

Owsley County Farm Bureau -- \$500

- Kalisha Brandenburg, Owsley County High School

Pendleton County Farm Bureau -- \$500 each

- Cody Kirsch and Kristen Stewart, Pendleton County High School

Pulaski County Farm Bureau – \$1,200 each

- Jacobs Phelps and Kari Popplewell, Southwestern High School; Auburn Anderson, Pulaski County High School.

Pulaski County Farm Bureau Non-Traditional Scholarship - \$1,200

- Carol Huckelby, Somerset Community College

Robertson County Farm Bureau - \$400 each

- Taylor Mitchell Deming High School

Rockcastle County Farm Bureau -- \$500 each

- Charity Adams and Elizabeth Lawrence, Rockcastle County High School; \$250 each: Bethney McKinney and Miranda Clark, Rockcastle County High School.

Russell County Farm Bureau – \$1,000

- Jessica Franklin, Russell County High School

Scott County Farm Bureau -- \$500 each

- Michael Reed, Victoria Hammons, Kaitlyn Elswick, Hannah Logsdon, Alexandra English, Brittaney Raschella, Elizabeth Jennings, Morgan Lusby, Alexandra Jones, Emma Whitlock and Brett Crosby, Scott County High School.

Shelby County Farm Bureau – \$1,000 each

- Sarah Eades, Collins High School; Ashley McKinney, Spencer County High School.

Shelby County Farm Bureau Current College Student Scholarship – \$1,000

- Catherine Hawkins, University of Kentucky

Shelby County Farm Bureau /Roy V. Catlett Scholarship -- \$1,000

- Benjamin Smith, Eminence High School

Simpson County Farm Bureau - \$1,000

- Amanda Bennett, Franklin Simpson High School

Spencer County Farm Bureau - \$1,000 each

- Alisha McGaughey, Taylorsville High School; Tyler Greenwell, Western Kentucky University; Shane Greenwell, Spencer County High School.

Taylor County Farm Bureau – \$1,000 each

- Kaitlyn Benningfield, Taylor County High School; Grace Arnold, Campbellsville High School.

Taylor County Farm Bureau/FFA - \$1,500

- Winifred Cheuvront, Taylor County High School

Warren County Farm Bureau – \$4,000 each

- Michael Bush, Warren Central High School; Lily Harris, South Warren High School.

Warren County Farm Bureau / R.O. Buchanon Scholarship – \$4,000

- Joanna Porter, Warren Central High School

Webster County Farm Bureau – \$1,000

- Taylor Wilson, Webster County High School

Whitley County Farm Bureau – \$3,000

- Tilmon Jackson, Whitley County High School

Woodford County Farm Bureau – \$1,500 each

- Hannah Greenwell, University of Kentucky; Jacob Pease, Woodford County High School





District Policy Meetings

Hundreds of county FB leaders from throughout the state participated in the District Policy Development Meetings in July. Staff members from the Public Affairs Division conduct the sessions to provide a framework for policy development at the county annual meetings. All topics are open for discussion but the focus is a close examination of priority issues that emerged from KFB's 2012 annual meeting.

Participants are given a packet of information on the respective issues. This year's list consists of state tax reform, water resources, farm labor, rural communications, property rights and biotech labeling.

KFB typically receives hundreds of policy recommendations from county Farm Bureaus and 26 advisory committees that deal with farm commodities and other areas that impact farm families. The organization's Resolutions Committee reviews those submissions to ensure that they represent a change from existing policy and are feasible. The ideas then move forward for consid-

eration by delegates to the annual meeting in December.

At the District 2 meeting in Madisonville, KFB Executive Vice President David S. Beck articulated the importance of these casual meetings.

"Policy development is what started our organization; it's what sets us apart from other organizations," Beck said. "It all starts with this process at the grassroots. Your participation is important. We don't ever want to take this for

Dozens of county Farm Bureau leaders came to the Ballard Convention Center in Madisonville for the District 2 meeting. Presiding over the agenda was District Chairman John Kuegel Jr. of Daviess County.

granted."

National Affairs Director L. Joe Cain urged the county leaders to "keep our policy current and relevant . . . to reflect what we want and need in Kentucky."

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Brumfield Farms thrives on diverse production

Hopkins County farmer Shawn Brumfield expresses a bit of amazement when reflecting on the family farm operation.

"We're so diversified . . . you'd think no one would be so crazy to do what we do," he said matter-of-factly.

Throw in a herd of cattle or a couple broiler houses and it truly would be pretty amazing at Brumfield Farms, a few miles northwest of Madisonville. As it is, the production of sod, tobacco, produce and row crops makes it quite hectic and very interesting for Shawn, his father, David Brumfield, and their four migrant workers. All told, they are attending to a large-scale sod operation, 20 acres of dark and burley tobacco, 25 acres of produce and around 200 acres of row crops.

And then there's a roadside farm market on busy U.S. 41A on the outskirts of town. Shawn's mom, Linda, attends to

that chore along with four employees. The market is open six days a week and over the course of the year has plenty to offer those looking for farm-fresh goods. The produce menu includes sweet, corn, tomatoes, all types of peppers, okra, strawberries, greens, squash, eggplant, cucumbers, broccoli, cabbage, lettuce, celery, brussel sprouts, watermelon and cantaloupe. Autumn brings pumpkins and mums. Spring is a hot time for bedding plants.

Brumfield Farm Market also is known for carrying popular Kentucky products like ice cream from Chaney's Dairy Barn, Gatton Country Meats, Katelyn's Honey, Ruth Hunt Candy, Mingua Beef Jerky and an assortment of jams, jellies and preserves. It is a participant in KFB's Certified Roadside Farm Market program.

The family opened the market just four years ago after years of selling from

the farm itself (which is about seven miles from the market building), at farmer's markets and, on occasion, through wholesale channels and marketing cooperatives. The site of their roadside market formerly was a residence. The old home was removed and the market building constructed.

The Brumfields are aggressive marketers and experts at raising produce.

"It's been a family tradition for many generations," said Shawn. "We have a photo of Brumfield Produce from 1912, but it goes back even further. I've been in it since I was very little."

The Brumfields raised burley and dark tobacco for years but gave up burley for a few years after the price support program was abolished. But with demand and prices on the rebound, burley is in the mix of the 20 acres of leaf that Shawn controls. David, meanwhile, handles most of the sod business.

The father-son team splits the work with the produce. “Dad and I are pretty much co-managers,” Shawn said.

Shawn is the current Hopkins County Farm Bureau president plus is chairman of the District 2 Young Farmer Committee. His wife, Shannon, is chairman of the women’s committee. David is a past county president and continues to serve on the board of directors.

A couple years ago the Brumfields got into the popular Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) business. They now have around 50 customers who pick up a basket of produce for 18 consecutive weeks during the production season. It starts with greens and strawberries in the spring and then the big bounty begins in early July when sweet corn and tomatoes become available.

“We have a real good mix for them,” says Shawn.

On the few occasions when there’s a surplus, the Brumfields will send product to the Fairview auction in Todd County, about 50 miles southeast.

“We’ve done about everything you can think of to sell,” said Shawn.

When reflecting on the Brumfield operation, and considering this era of specialization, one has to wonder how



they know how to grow so many different things.

“We’ve made our share of mistakes with some things, but there’s a lot of information out there to help us,” Shawn explained. “I tried celery for the first time this year and did well with it. Next year I might try something else. It’s fun

Shawn, Linda and David Brumfield.

Below, Brumfield Farm Market was established a few years ago on the outskirts of Madisonville.

to grow fresh produce. I love to sell it because you can tell it’s special to the customers.”



Roadside Markets Tour



The Roadside Market Summer Tour went to venues in Tennessee and Alabama, including visits to the farmers markets in Nashville and Franklin, TN. Here in the wagon shot, the group prepares to tour Smiley Hollow Farm near Goodlettsville, a special events facility that can accommodate up to 2,000 guests. The tour also involved orchards, nurseries, a cheese maker, various farm market outlets and farms.

The group photo was taken at Tate Farms in Alabama. KFB President Mark Haney addressed the group during the first stop, at Chaney's Dairy Barn in Bowling Green. He and his brother, Don, operate an orchard and market in Pulaski County.





Stop and Buy Local

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU'S 2013 CERTIFIED ROADSIDE FARM MARKETS

WEST

- Broadbent B & B Foods**
Kuttawa · (800) 841-2202
- Brumfield Farm Market**
Madisonville · (270) 821-2721
- Cates Farm**
Henderson · (270) 823-6150
- Cayce's Pumpkin Patch**
Princeton · (270) 365-2132
- Country Fresh Meats**
Sturgis · (270) 333-0280
- Dogwood Valley Trading Post**
Clay · (270) 664-9892
- Happy Hollow Farms**
Calhoun · (270) 499-3774
- Jim David Meats**
Uniontown · (270) 822-4866
- Lovell's Orchard & Farm Market**
Hopkinsville · (270) 269-2242
- McKinney Farm**
Russellville · (270) 726-6284
- Metcalfe Landscaping**
Madisonville · (270) 821-0350
- Poore's Nursery & Farm**
Russellville · (270) 542-4828
- Reid's Orchard**
Owensboro · (270) 685-2444
- The Country Barn**
Elkton · (270) 885-4843
- Trunnell's Farm Market**
Utica · (270) 733-2222
- Zook's Produce**
Herndon · no phone

SOUTH CENTRAL

- Acres of Land Winery**
Richmond · (859) 328-3000
- Baldwin Farms**
Richmond · (859) 582-5785
- Berea College Farm & Garden**
Berea · (859) 985-3590
- Brian T. Guffey Livestock & Produce**
Albany · (606) 688-1538
- Burton's Nursery & Garden Center**
Campbellsville · (270) 789-1239
- Chaney's Dairy Barn**
Bowling Green · (270) 843-5567
- Chateau du Vieux Corbeau Winery**
Danville · (859) 236-1775
- Crawford Farms**
Elizabethtown · (615) 574-8470
- Cravens Greenhouse**
Albany · (606) 387-8583
- D&F Farms**
Somerset · (606) 382-5214
- Davis Family Farm**
Greensburg · (270) 565-1336
- Dennison's Roadside Market**
Horse Cave · (270) 786-1663
- Devine's Farm & Corn Maze**
Harrodsburg · (859) 613-3489
- Double Hart Farm**
Corbin · (606) 523-0465
- Frenchvalley Farms**
Jamestown · (270) 566-1757
- Habegger's Amish Market**
Scottsville · (270) 618-5676
- Hail's Farm**
Somerset · (606) 875-2972
- Halcomb's Knob Roadside Market**
Paint Lick · (859) 925-9936
- Haney's Appledale Farm**
Nancy · (606) 636-6148
- Heavenly Haven Farm**
Columbia · (270) 465-9597
- Hettmansperger's Greenhouse**
Science Hill · (606) 423-4668
- Hinton's Orchard & Farm Market**
Hodgenville · (270) 325-3854
- Jackson's Orchard & Nursery**
Bowling Green · (270) 781-5303
- Just Piddlin Farm**
Woodburn · (270) 542-6769
- Kenny's Farmhouse Cheese**
Austin · (270) 434-4124
- Lee's Garden Center Florist & KY Fresh Store**
Hodgenville · (270) 358-9897
- Mammoth Cave Transplants**
Brownsville · (270) 597-2533
- McQuerry's Herbs-N-Heirlooms**
Paint Lick · (859) 792-8268
- MeadowBrook Orchards & Farm**
Elk Horn · (606) 787-4690
- Owens Garden Center**
Somerset · (606) 379-5488
- Roberts Family Farm**
Guston · (270) 422-2361
- Serano Alpacas & Yarns**
Springfield · (208) 699-8570
- Serenity Farm Alpacas**
Raywick · (270) 692-8743
- Sinking Valley Vineyard & Winery**
Somerset · (606) 274-0223
- St. Catharine Farm**
Springfield · (859) 336-0444

- Todd's Greenhouse & Florist**
Eubank · (606) 379-1375
- Williams Country Market**
Gravel Switch · (270) 692-2493
- Wonder of Life Farm**
Lancaster · (859) 792-8923

NORTH CENTRAL

- Amerson Farm**
Georgetown · (502) 863-3799
- Antioch Daylily Garden**
Lexington · (859) 293-0350
- Ayres Family Orchard**
Owenton · (502) 484-5236
- Beech Springs Farm Market**
Winchester · (859) 749-2776
- Bi-Water Farm & Greenhouse**
Georgetown · (502) 863-3676
- Blue Ribbon Market**
Union · (859) 393-4357
- Boone Gardiner Garden Center**
Crestwood · (502) 243-3832
- Boyd Orchards**
Versailles · (859) 873-3097
- Bray Fruit**
Bedford · (502) 255-7296
- Bray Orchard & Roadside Market**
Bedford · (502) 255-3607
- Callis Orchard**
Bedford · (502) 255-3316
- Capture Your Heart Alpacas**
Bloomfield · (502) 510-5185
- Country Corner Greenhouse**
Shepherdsville · (502) 955-8635
- Country Pumpkins**
Dry Ridge · (859) 905-9656
- Croppers Greenhouse & Nursery**
May's Lick · (606) 763-6589
- Eagle Bend Alpacas Fiber & Gifts**
Burlington · (859) 586-5695
- Evans Orchard & Cider Mill**
Georgetown · (502) 863-2255
- Gallrein Farms**
Shelbyville · (502) 633-4849
- George Gagel Farm Market**
Louisville · (502) 447-6809
- Gregory Farms**
Turners Station · (502) 947-5469
- Golden Apple Fruit Market**
Lexington · (606) 633-9763
- Julie's Pumpkins**
Paris · (859) 987-4498
- McLean's Aerofresh Fruit**
Ewing · (606) 782-1112
- Michels Family Farm**
Sparta · (859) 643-2511
- Morrison's Greenhouses**
Louisville · (502) 969-0675
- Mulberry Orchard**
Shelbyville · (502) 655-2633
- Redman's Farm**
Morning View · (859) 356-2837
- Reed Valley Orchard**
Paris · (859) 987-6480
- Ridgeview Greenhouse & Nursery**
Shepherdsville · (502) 955-5939
- Rising Sons Home Farm Winery**
Lawrenceburg · (502) 600-0224
- Serenity Hill Fiber**
Nicholasville · (859) 913-1615
- Sherwood Acres Beef**
LaGrange · (502) 222-4326
- Sunny Acres Farm**
Jeffersonton · (502) 643-6584
- Sweet Home Spun**
Pleasureville · (502) 878-4814
- The Greenhouse in Gertrude**
Brooksville · (606) 782-0033
- Thieneman's Herbs & Perennials**
Louisville · (502) 491-6305
- Tower View Farm & Nursery**
Jeffersonton · (502) 267-2066
- Triple J Farm**
Georgetown · (502) 863-6786
- Wilson Nurseries**
Frankfort · (502) 223-1488
- Yuletide Tree Farm & Nursery**
Winchester · (859) 771-4729

EAST

- Black Barn Produce**
River · (606) 297-2600
- Bramble Ridge Orchard**
Mt. Sterling · (859) 498-9123
- Country Garden Greenhouse**
Beattyville · (606) 424-9379
- Feathered Wing Farm Market**
Greenup · (606) 932-8065
- Golden Apple Fruit Market**
Whitesburg · (606) 633-9763
- Hutton-Loyd Tree Farm**
Wallingford · (606) 876-3423
- Imel's Greenhouse**
Greenup · (606) 473-1708
- Townsend's Sorghum Mill**
Jeffersonville · (859) 498-4142

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County Annual Meetings

ADAIR COUNTY

Date: September 17, 7 p.m.
Place: Cranmer Dining Hall

ANDERSON COUNTY

Date: October 14, 5:30 p.m.
Place: Eagle Lake Convention Center

BARREN COUNTY

Date: September 21, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Trojan Academy

BATH COUNTY

Date: September 14, 6 p.m.
Place: Ag Center

BELL COUNTY

Date: September 26, 6 p.m.
Place: FB Office, Middlesboro

BOONE COUNTY

Date: September 10, 6 p.m.
Site: Extension Office

BOURBON COUNTY

Date: October 17, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Legion Park

BOYD COUNTY

Date: October 14, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Franks Community Bldg.

BRACKEN COUNTY

Date: October 8, 7:30 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

BRECKINRIDGE COUNTY

Date: September 24, 6:30 p.m.
Place: FFA Camp

BULLITT COUNTY

Date: September 21, 6 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

BUTLER COUNTY

Date: September 10, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Hawes Agriculture Building

CALLOWAY COUNTY

Date: September 3, 7 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau office

CAMPBELL COUNTY

Date: September 15, 4 p.m.
Place: St. Peter & Paul Social Center

CARROLL COUNTY

Date: September 9, 7 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau office

CARTER COUNTY

Date: September 4, 6 p.m.
Place: FB Office

CASEY COUNTY

Date: October 10, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Ag Expo Center

CLAY COUNTY

Date: October 10, 6 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Bldg.

CLINTON COUNTY

Date: September 12, 6 p.m.
Place: Fairgrounds

CRITTENDEN COUNTY

Date: September 5, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Ed Tech Center

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Date: September 27, 6 p.m.
Place: Veterans Building

DAVIESS COUNTY

Date: August 15, 5 p.m.
Place: Reid's Orchard

EDMONSON COUNTY

Date: September 28, 4 p.m.
Place: High School

GRANT COUNTY

Date: September 21, 7 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Bldg..

FAYETTE COUNTY

Date: October 1, 5:30 p.m.
Place: E.S. Good Barn

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Date: October 1, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

FLEMING COUNTY

Date: August 9, 6 p.m.
Place: Industrial Park Shelterhouse

FLOYD COUNTY

Date: October 17, 7 p.m.
Place: May Lodge, Jenny Wiley SP

GREENUP COUNTY

Date: November 4, 6 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Meeting Hall

HANCOCK COUNTY

Date: August 8, 6 p.m.
Place: Riverview

HENRY COUNTY

Date: October 10, 7:30 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau office

HOPKINS COUNTY

Date: August 24, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Ballard Convention Center

JACKSON COUNTY

Date: September 23, 6 p.m.
Place: Jackson Energy Farm

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Date: November 12, 7:30
Place: Farm Bureau Building

KNOX COUNTY

Date: September 5, 3:30 et
Place: Farm Bureau office

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Date: October 15, 6 p.m.
Place: Down Home Grill

LETCHER COUNTY

Date: September 5, 6 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

LOGAN COUNTY

Date: September 14, 6 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

Date: September 9, 6 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

MARION COUNTY

Date: October 14, 7 p.m.
Place: Masonic Temple

MARTIN COUNTY

Date: October 4, 9:30 a.m.
Place: FB Office

McCREARY COUNTY

Date: September 19, 6 p.m.
Place: S. Kentucky RECC Bldg.

McLEAN COUNTY

Date: August 17, 5 p.m.
Place: High School

MEADE COUNTY

Date: September 16, 6 p.m.
Place: Community Building

MERCER COUNTY

Date: September 9, 6 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

METCALFE COUNTY

Date: September 5, 6 p.m.
Place: Extension Office\

OWEN COUNTY

Date: October 7, 6 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

PENDLETON COUNTY

Date: September 28, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau building

PIKE COUNTY

Date: September 19, 6:30 p.m.
Place: East Ky. Expo Center

ROCKCASTLE COUNTY

Date: September 20, 7 p.m.
Place: Roundstone Elementary School

ROWAN COUNTY

Date: October 1, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau office

RUSSELL COUNTY

Date: September 6, 6 p.m.
Place: Fairgrounds

SCOTT COUNTY

Date: September 17, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

SHELBY COUNTY

Date: October 5, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

TRIMBLE COUNTY

Date: August 15, 7 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Date: September 19, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Mackville Community Center

WARREN COUNTY

Date: September 14, 5:30 p.m.
Place: South Warren High School

WAYNE COUNTY

Date: September 23, 6 p.m.
Place: Aspire Center

WHITLEY COUNTY

Date: September 10, 6:30 p.m.
Place: Brashear's Grocery

WOODFORD COUNTY

Date: September 21, 6:30 p.m.
Place: 1st Christian Church Family Life Center

PRODUCER'S EMPHASIS ON RECORD KEEPING SELLS HIM ON MAXQ

By WAYNE TANKERSLEY

Ask Joe Davis what his average calf weaning weights are and he can tell you. Ask him what weaning weights are for first calf heifers or either for mature cows and he can tell you. Ask Joe Davis any question related to his beef cattle operation and chances are he has the answer tucked away in his files. Some might label him a record-keeping fanatic, but the Westminster, SC beef producer emphatically believes that good record keeping is just as essential to his profitability as any other management practice he employs. And it is those very records that has Davis sold on the use of novel endophyte tall fescue varieties like MaxQ on his beef farm.

"We have 174 acres of novel endophyte fescue here on our farm. All but 12 acres is Pennington's Jesup MaxQ. We have another herd on a nearby rented farm that has toxic Ky 31 fescue on it," explains Davis. He says there is a noticeable difference between the appearances of the two herds. *"The cows on the MaxQ pastures have body condition scores of 7 plus compared to maybe a score of 5 for the cows on the rented farm."*

While the two herds did look visually different, the real difference between herds was factually recorded in the form of weaning weights of the calf crop. Adjusted weaning weights for the steer calves raised on the MaxQ pastures averaged 717 lbs. versus 616 lbs. for steers raised on the rented farm. Heifer calves on MaxQ pastures averaged 643 lbs. compared to 588 lbs. for heifers reared on Ky 31 pastures. (See table.) When asked why more producers didn't use novel endophyte fescue varieties, Davis responded, *"It's probably because they don't have records to*

really show what toxic fescue is costing them."

What about the future of Davis' rented farm? Joe

MaxQ PAYS



Persistence PAYS

Early in its development, MaxQ was proven to be as persistent, durable and dependable as toxic KY 31 in abusive research trials (close continuous grazing with bermudagrass competition in hot, drought stricken summers). Ten years of on-farm experience across the fescue belt has given testimony to the exceptional persistence of MaxQ.

Performance PAYS

Unlike toxic KY 31, with MaxQ you can expect higher average daily gains, conception rates, birth rates, and weaning weights... and all that adds up to money in the bank!

| Stocker Steer Gain Response to MaxQ | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|------|-------------|
| Spring Phase | Toxic Fescue | MaxQ | Improvement |
| Avg Daily Gain | 0.68 | 1.72 | +153% |
| Gain/acre, lbs. | 102 | 249 | +144% |

Adapted from Parish et al., 2003. 3 yrs data from Calhoun and Eatonton, GA

Investing PAYS

Proven persistence, more calves, heavier calves, better condition scores, increased herd health, more milk... it's easy to see how MaxQ can pay for itself in as little as two years. Now with lower establishment cost per acre, get an even stronger return on your investment.

"We have 174 acres of novel endophyte fescue on our farm. All but 12 acres is Pennington's Jesup MaxQ. We have another herd on a nearby rented farm that has toxic Ky 31 fescue on it. This year, the cows on the MaxQ pastures have body condition scores of 7 plus compared to maybe a score of 5 for the cows on the rented farm. I have weaning weight records going back some 8 years that show the difference between MaxQ and Ky 31. In 2013, adjusted weaning weights for the steer calves raised on the MaxQ pastures averaged 717 lbs. versus 616 lbs. for steers raised on the rented farm. Heifer calves on MaxQ pastures averaged 643 lbs. compared to 588 lbs. for the heifers reared on Ky 31 pastures."

Joe Davis - Westminster, SC

Call us or visit our website to learn more about the persistence & performance of MaxQ.

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YOUR FORAGE SEED SOLUTION

Calf Weaning Weight Comparison MaxQ vs. Ky 31
Joe Davis Farm, Westminster, SC - Spring 2013

| Sex/Pasture Forage | Adj. WW lbs. | MaxQ Adv. |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Heifers Ky 31 | 588 | |
| Heifers MaxQ | 643 | +55 lbs |
| Steers Ky 31 | 616 | |
| Steers MaxQ | 717 | +101 lbs |

chuckles and says, *"Mandy continually chides me to hold down farm expenditures, but after seeing the differences in appearance between the two herds and recording the weaning weights, she asked me just how much it would cost to convert that rented farm to MaxQ."*

(Wayne Tankersley is a cattle producer and works as a forage consultant for Pennington Seed, Inc.)

By Ed McQueen

Hay disappearance record low

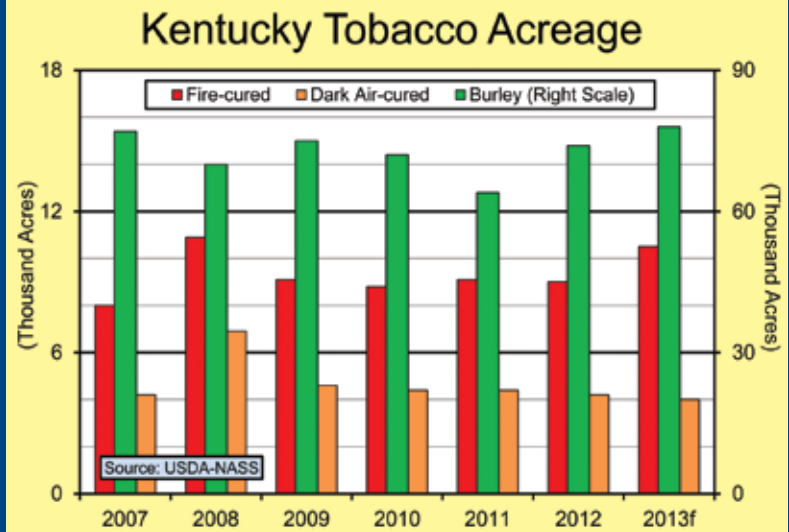
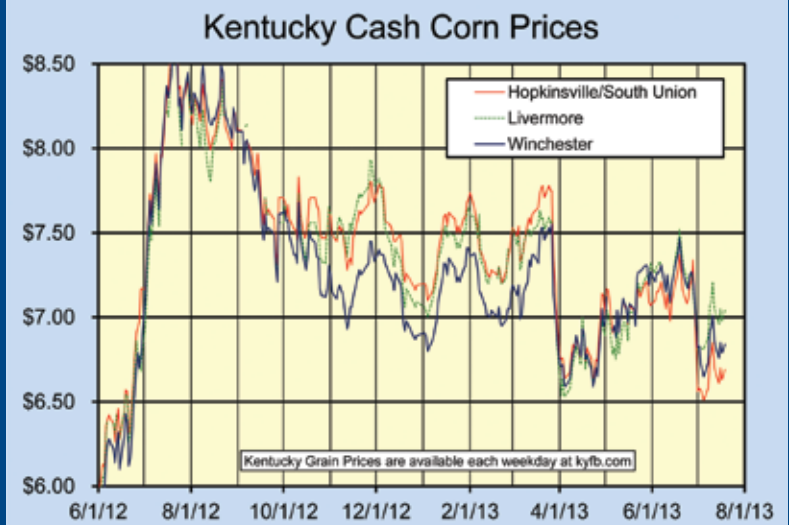
U.S. hay disappearance (production adjusted for net trade and stocks) declined in 2012/13 (May/April), with both total disappearance and disappearance per roughage-consuming animal unit (RCAU) falling to the lowest levels on recent record. Disappearance per RCAU relates hay disappearance to the size and composition of the livestock herd and the different feed rations. A decline in hay disappearance per RCAU indicates less hay used in standard feed rations. December-May disappearance for the 2012/13 crop year was the lowest since the 1978/79 crop year. This year's May 1 on-farm hay stocks were 14.16 million tons, the lowest on record. USDA reports tight supplies and high prices are behind declining disappearance; the average all-hay price of \$203/ton for April and May was the highest on record. However, high hay prices have not raised farmers' intentions to harvest significantly more acres in 2013/14.

Lamb and mutton imports rising

Lamb and mutton imports into the United States have shown strength year-to-date, according to USDA's Economic Research Service. First-quarter 2013 imports totaled 49 million pounds, 33 percent above the first-quarter 2012 levels. Second-quarter 2013 imports are expected to be around 41 million pounds, about eight percent above second quarter 2012. The stronger U.S. currency relative to those of New Zealand and Australia, coupled with the gradual improvement in the U.S. economy, have likely impacted import levels for 2013. Quarterly domestic lamb and mutton production has been running near 39 million pounds since early 2012. USDA expects last-half 2013 production may decline below 2012 levels if favorable pasture conditions encourage expansion of the sheep herd. Choice slaughter lambs at San Angelo, Texas, are expected to average \$98-101/cwt for 2013 compared to \$112.89/cwt for 2012.

Feeders are heavier entering feedlots

The recent Cattle on Feed Report from USDA kept two trends intact. For eleven consecutive months, feedlot inventories have been below year-earlier levels. The July 1 inventory was 10.37 million head, down 3.2 percent from a year ago. The second trend is an increase in placements of heavier feeder cattle, especially those over 800 pounds. During June 2013, on a year-over-year basis, placements of cattle weighing over 800 pounds increased 26.5 percent, while 30 percent fewer cattle under 700 pounds were put in the feedlot. The move to heavier cattle is in response to the high cost of grain; more weight gain needs to occur outside the feedlot on less-costly forages. The current feedlot inventory should support beef supplies for the next few months, but production will begin to shrink thereafter. USDA forecasts 2014 beef production at 24.105 billion pounds, down 4.9 percent from this year.



KFB named best at social media; continues to win video awards

In its first year of operation, KFB's social media program has been named tops among state Farm Bureau organizations in American Farm Bureau Federation's annual communications awards competition. KFB social media specialist Carilynn Gravatte received the "Best Social Media Program" award at AFBF's Public Relations Conference.

Meanwhile, KFB's video team of Bob Shrader and Matt Hilton continue to garner awards from AFBF. They were honored in four of the five video categories, capturing an Award of Excellence for "Best Video Newsletter" for the monthly Kentucky Farm Bureau Reports. The Emmy® Award-winning "Bluegrass & Backroads" magazine-style program, now in its 10th season, won honorable mentions for "Best Video Feature Story," "Best Video Program" and "Best Promotional or Educational Video or Documentary." In recent years KFB has been selected for more of the video awards than any state.

The Communications Division initiated a social media program last September. Ms. Gravatte, who was raised on a Graves County farm, works with Public Relations Director Dan Smaldone in handling KFB's activity with Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, WordPress, Pinterest, iTunes podcast and a smartphone application. KFB won the favor of the competition's judges by describing how it launched a comprehensive social media plan designed to reach and communicate directly with both its members and the general public. It has activated 15 different properties to highlight KFB's program areas, policies and achievements, as well as information about agriculture. This includes a newsroom blog and a sizeable "Flickr" account for photo management and sharing.

"These awards highlight how our communications team does an excellent job delivering information to our members and the general public," said KFB Executive Vice President David S. Beck. "Creating a social media presence was a big step forward for our organization. It's gratifying to know that we're doing it well. To be named best at this in our first year of operation is quite an achievement."



Charles Schindler
859-963-6035
Kentucky



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The 2014 Hagie STS product line features a new drive system, cab design and engine for optimal performance.



NEW 2014 STS

Increase efficiency, enhance torque management and traction control with the new drive system. A more spacious new cab designed with operator safety and ergonomics in mind to optimize operator to machine performance. The Cummins engine is compliant with emission regulations, with features including improved airflow and serviceability. The new variable speed hydraulically driven reversing fan, when coupled with the new drive system, will save 15% fuel expense. Experience the 2014 Hagie STS.



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“Kentucky Proud” milk program launched

Agriculture Commissioner James Comer unveiled “Udderly Kentucky” milk, a new Kentucky Proud brand launched in 32 Walmart stores in central and south-central Kentucky. “Udderly Kentucky” milk is 100% sourced from Kentucky dairy farms and 100% processed in Kentucky. A seven-cent-per-gallon premium will be returned directly to every participating Kentucky dairy farmer.

“Udderly Kentucky” milk is trademarked by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and processed by Prairie Farms Dairy in Somerset, Kentucky. This facility processes milk from 105 Kentucky dairy farmers in the region. Prairie Farms is offering “Udderly Kentucky” milk in whole, 2%, 1%, and skim varieties in gallon sizes.

“When Commissioner Comer and his staff suggested this partnership with Walmart, we knew it was right for these farm families and for the Kentucky community that we serve,” said Tino Soto, a market manager who has served as regional buyer for Walmart. “Our company has exactly the same mission as your Commissioner: Increase farm impact and net farm income on our shelves. ‘Udderly Kentucky’ is one more addition to our line of Kentucky Proud products that range from Purnell’s breakfast sausage and WindStone Farms jam to Weisenberger Mill flour mixes, central Kentucky produce, and much more.”

“Prairie Farms is a processing facility owned by farmers, so this is a natural fit for us,” said Mike Chandler of Prairie Farms. “We work with more than 100 area dairy farmers, and I’m so excited we will directly impact them by offering Kentuckians a product that goes from the farm to the table while never leaving the borders of the Commonwealth.”

The test markets for “Udderly Kentucky” milk include Walmart stores in Barbourville, Bardstown, Berea, Campbellsville, Columbia, Corbin, Danville, Frankfort, Glasgow, Georgetown, Harrodsburg, Hardinsburg, Lawrenceburg, Lebanon, Leitchfield, Lexington, London, Manchester, Middlesboro, Monticello, Nicholasville, Richmond, Somerset, Stanford, Tompkinsville, Williamsburg, and Winchester. A list of locations where “Udderly Kentucky” milk is sold can be found at www.UdderlyKY.com.

GOAP Conference is October 30

The annual conference of the Governor’s Office of Agricultural Policy (GOAP) will be October 30 at the Sloan Convention Center in Bowling Green.

“This event brings together agricultural leaders and others to exchange ideas and learn about opportunities created by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund and the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation loan programs,” said Roger Thomas, GOAP executive director. “This year we are excited to incorporate the Tobacco Settlement Fund Legislative Oversight Committee into our day, so the agriculture community can witness a legislative committee meeting first hand. We also are excited to welcome USDA Deputy Secretary Michael Scuse as our keynote speaker.”

The conference includes a tradeshow; Kentucky product samples; policy and program updates; and an awards luncheon recognizing those who have exemplified outstanding leadership through the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund and its programs.

Printable registration forms and online registration are available at <http://agpolicy.ky.gov> (click on “2013 GOAP Conference”) or by calling Sandra Gardner at 502-782-1759.

AFBF pushing bill to boost ag research

AFBF has endorsed legislation to create a new type of charitable, tax-exempt organization to allow private monies to fund agricultural research. Agricultural research organizations would work in conjunction with agricultural and land-grant colleges and universities to conduct agricultural research, complementing existing public and private efforts. The legislation, called the Charitable Agricultural Research Act, was introduced in the House as H.R. 2671 and in the Senate as S. 1280.

U.S. and EU begin trade negotiations

The United States and the European Union have started discussions to secure a free trade agreement, which is two years in the making. The proposed Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership pact would be the world’s biggest free-trade deal, covering about 50 percent of global economic output, 30 percent of global trade and 20 percent of global foreign direct investment, according to news reports. The partners are already each other’s top traders and investors, with two-way trade totaling more than \$646 billion in 2012.

Genetically modified crops will be a topic in the T-TIP debate, as Europe bans all GM products, but 90 percent of the soybeans, corn and sugar beets grown in the U.S. are genetically modified. Other discussion areas will focus on the auto, chemical and pharmaceutical industries. The talks could last until 2015.

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75-year celebration

Pendleton County FB celebrated its 75th anniversary during the Pendleton County Fair. Pictured, back row from left, are Directors Terry Logan and Rob McClanahan, along with (front row from left) Director Brent Moore, Women's Committee Chairperson Jean Rapp, President Bob McClanahan and Area Program Director Joe Claxon.

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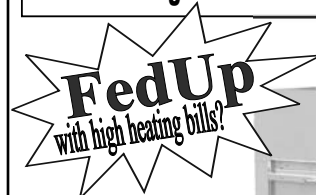
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Scott Travis named “farmer of the year”

KFB Director Scott Travis of Spencer County has been selected as the Kentucky winner of the 2013 Swisher Sweets/Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year award. Travis now joins nine other state winners from the Southeast as finalists for the award. The overall winner will be announced on October 15 at the Sunbelt Ag Expo farm show in Moultrie, Ga.

Travis was previously named the Kentucky Farmer of the Year in 2007. Since then, he has almost doubled the amount of land he farms.

A farmer for 28 years, Travis currently farms 3,519 acres, with 2,557 acres of rented land and 962 acres of owned land. He farms this land with the help of family members and only one full-time employee.

His yields last year included tobacco on 12 acres producing 2,404 pounds per acre, corn on 1,056 acres yielding 106 bushels per acre, full-season soybeans on 1,912 acres yielding 42 bushels per acre, doublecropped soybeans on 146 acres yielding 38 bushels per acre, wheat on 146 acres yielding 40 bushels per acre and hay on 14 acres producing four tons per acre.

Drought depressed his corn yields last year, but high grain prices made 2012 his best year of farming.

Careful research helps inform his marketing decisions. Travis checks weather, exports and prices daily. As prices reach acceptable levels, he consults with his grain buyer, and takes positions in the futures markets. With the help of technical and fundamental price analysis, he uses forward contracting to get higher prices. During late spring and early fall, he uses options contracts to protect against price swings. He often sells his grain crops to Consolidated Grain or to local farmers.

He sells his tobacco on open markets in Danville and Springfield. “I haven’t contracted tobacco since 2011,” he adds.

“We grow pumpkins and winter squash or cushaw on four acres,” he says. “We grow additional pumpkins that we give away. I sell my pumpkins, gourds, corn shocks and similar products from a roadside stand across from an elementary school. We sell these on the ‘honor system’ and trust our customers to pay the right amounts.”

Over the years, he has raised cattle, hogs, rabbits, chickens, peppers, sugar beets and popcorn. At one time, he had 700 hogs, but cut back on hogs during the 1990’s as he increased burley tobacco acreage.

As he reduced livestock and increased grain crops, Travis added larger equipment. His equipment now includes three planters, two combines and five grain carts. He hires trucking to haul his crops and occasionally hires custom spraying and harvesting. His plans also call for upgrading his grain storage system.

He relies on crop insurance and reduces drought risk by spreading maturities for the corn and soybeans he plants. He plants seed with insect and herbicide resistance traits, along with newer traits for drought tolerance.



Scott Travis

He prepays expenses for crop inputs and land rent. Early on, he had trouble finding land to rent, but his work in the community has allowed him to build relationships with landlords who now seek him out to farm their land.

In 1985, he had one landlord, but now has 30. He says that being a good steward allows him to rent much of the same land year after year. He controls erosion by relying extensively on no-till planting, by establishing and maintaining grassed waterways, and by building retention basins.

With low interest rates, he has bought farmland, and hopes to continue doing so. Buying land close to his home would allow him to give up rented land away from the home. “This would give younger farmers the opportunities I had early in my career,” he explains.

He has served as president, vice president and treasurer for the Spencer County Farm Bureau. He also served on the Spencer County Ag Development Board. He was named the Spencer County Master Conservationist in 2007 and received a soil conservation award from Goodyear Tire in 1993. He has also hosted agricultural field days for school children visiting his farm.

At KFB, Travis serves on the state board, a tobacco advisory board, and on the organization’s insurance company board.

Nationally, he has represented tobacco farmers in stakeholder meetings with the Food and Drug Administration. He has been a speaker at the U.S. Tobacco Forum. And in 1994, he received the Philip Morris Excellence in Tobacco award.

Scott and his wife Robbie have three children, sons Collin and Conner and a daughter, Cameron.

As the Kentucky state winner of the Swisher Sweets/Sunbelt Expo award, Travis will now receive a \$2,500 cash award and an expense paid trip to the Sunbelt Expo from Swisher International of Jacksonville, Fla., a \$500 gift certificate from the Southern States cooperative, the choice of either \$1,000 in PhytoGen cottonseed or a \$500 donation to a designated charity from Dow AgroSciences, and a Columbia vest from Ivey’s Outdoor and Farm Supply.

He is now eligible for the \$15,000 cash prize that goes to the overall winner. Other prizes for the overall winner include the use of a Massey Ferguson tractor for a year from Massey Ferguson North America, another \$500 gift certificate and a Heritage gun safe from Southern States, the choice of another \$1,000 in PhytoGen cottonseed or a second \$500 donation to a designated charity from Dow AgroSciences, and a Columbia jacket from Ivey’s Outdoor and Farm Supply.

Swisher International, through its Swisher Sweets cigar brand, and the Sunbelt Expo are sponsoring the Southeastern Farmer of the Year awards for the 24th consecutive year.

Kentucky farmers became eligible to compete for the award in 2006.

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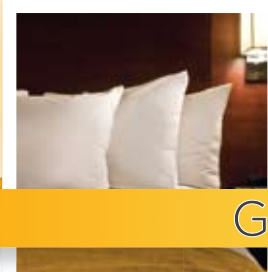
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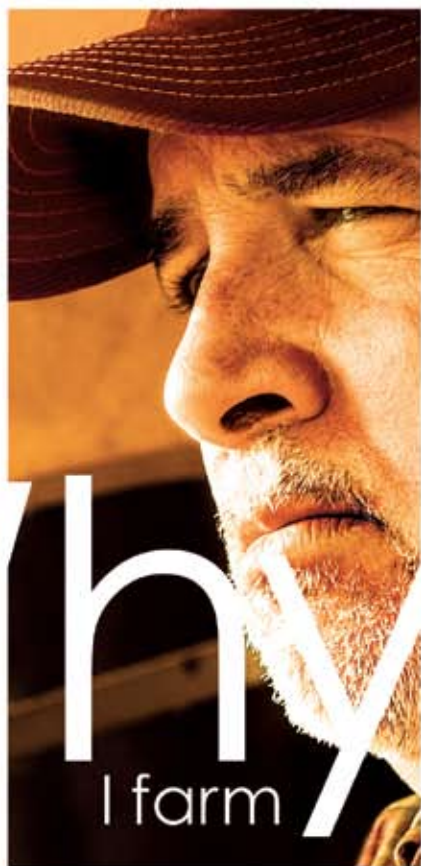


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