

Clark County Ag and Natural Resources Newsletter

January 2024



Clark County Extension Service • 1400 Fortune Drive • Winchester, KY 40391 • 859-744-4682 • clark.ext@uky.edu • <http://clark.ca.uky.edu/>

A Word from the Agent . . .



Happy New Year! To say last year was a significant year would be an understatement. Last year, my son turned one which has been amazing, I completed my 10th year in extension from working in three different counties in two states, I completed my second year at the Clark County Extension Office, and those are

just a few. I have been blessed to find myself in Clark County and cannot wait to see what is to come! The Clark County Extension Office is always coming up with new and amazing programs, so be sure to also check out what FCS, 4-H, and Hort has going on. As always, feel free to call the office to ask about upcoming programs!


Levi Berg
Clark County Extension Agent
for Agriculture and Natural Resources
levi.berg@uky.edu

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ClarkCountyExtension](https://www.facebook.com/ClarkCountyExtension)

Upcoming Classes:

- Private Applicator: **January 16** at 9:00 am
- Private Applicator: **January 17** at 5:30 pm
- Beef Quality Care Assurance: **February 5** at 9:00 am
- Beef Quality Care Assurance: **February 7** at 6:00 pm

2024 Winter School

February 6, 8, 13

(Information inside this newsletter)

F Y O Forage Management Tips for January

- Begin utilizing stockpiled pastures. Graze pastures with orchardgrass and clovers first. Save tall fescue pastures for late winter grazing.
- Using polywire, strip graze stockpiled pastures to improve utilization. Start at the water source and allocate enough forage to for 2-3 days. Back fencing is not necessary.
- Make plans to frost seed red and white clover onto closely grazed tall fescue pastures by mid-Feb.
- Some hay can be fed as stockpiled grass is grazed to stretch out the grazing season.
- Begin hay feeding as stockpiled forage is used up.
- Supplement hay as needed.
- Minimize waste by utilizing ring feeders.

Office Closed



Monday, January 15, 2024



Winter Feeding Check-Up and Using the UK Beef Cow Forage Supplement Tool

Kevin Laurent, Extension Specialist, University of Kentucky

Winter feeding is in full swing and for operations in the drier regions of the state, hay feeding has been going on for quite some time. So, depending on your particular situation, now might be a good time to reevaluate and fine tune your winter feeding program.

- 1) Inventory your feed resources.** By now you should have an idea of how readily cows are consuming the hay you have offered. With roughly 120 days of feeding left to go, take inventory of hay on hand, and determine if supplies will be adequate. It would be better to purchase hay now than in late winter when you are down to your last rolls. In areas of the state that got adequate moisture, and if not already utilized, there may be some winter grazing available. Remember that in most cases, stockpiled fescue holds its nutritive value well throughout the winter and will usually meet the needs of a lactating cow. Spring calving herds may choose to defer grazing on stockpiled pasture until February or March and utilize these acres for a calving pasture or for new pairs. Fall calving herds will want to graze these pastures now since cows are lactating and being bred.
- 2) Test your hay, weigh a few rolls, and use the UK Beef Cow Forage Supplement Tool [Beef Forage Supplement Tool \(uky.edu\)](http://BeefForageSupplementTool.uky.edu).** It is not too late to test your hay. With winter feed costs accounting for most of the cow-calf budget, knowing the nutritive value of your hay and how to adequately supplement is imperative. Hay analysis results can be entered in the UK Beef Cow Forage Supplement Tool which is a web-based app that can be loaded on a smart phone. The app uses dry matter, crude protein, neutral detergent fiber (NDF), and total digestible nutrients (TDN) to estimate intake and supplementation needs for cows in

<p>Dry Matter 90</p> <p>Crude Protein 9</p> <p>NDF 60</p> <p>TDN 57</p> <p>Stage of Production Late Gestation</p> <p>Supplements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corn <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soyhull <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 75% Soyhull / 25% Gluten <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 85% Soyhull / 15% DDGS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 67% Soyhull / 33% Gluten <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 80% Soyhull / 20% DDGS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 75% Soyhull / 25% DDGS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50% Soyhull / 50% Gluten <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corn Gluten Feed (Gluten) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distillers Dried Grains w/solubles (DDGS) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soybean Meal <p>Select All Clear Selection</p>	<p>Late Gestation Crude Protein: 9% NDF: 60% TDN: 57%</p> <p>Expected daily intake of this forage for a 1250 lb cow is 2% of body weight, or 25 lbs on a dry matter basis, or 28 lbs on an as fed basis.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Protein</th> <th>Supplement</th> <th>Recommended Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>8.5%</td> <td>Corn (6 lbs max)</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11%</td> <td>Soyhull (16 lbs max)</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13.75%</td> <td>75% Soyhull / 25% Gluten (16 lbs max)</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13.85%</td> <td>85% Soyhull / 15% DDGS (16 lbs max)</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14.6%</td> <td>67% Soyhull / 33% Gluten (16 lbs max)</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14.8%</td> <td>80% Soyhull / 20% DDGS (16 lbs max)</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15.75%</td> <td>75% Soyhull / 25% DDGS (16 lbs max)</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16.5%</td> <td>50% Soyhull / 50% Gluten (16 lbs max)</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22%</td> <td>Corn Gluten Feed (Gluten) (8 lbs max)</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30%</td> <td>Distillers Dried Grains w/solubles (DDGS) (8 lbs max)</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>50%</td> <td>Soybean Meal (4 lbs max)</td> <td>None</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Protein	Supplement	Recommended Amount	8.5%	Corn (6 lbs max)	None	11%	Soyhull (16 lbs max)	None	13.75%	75% Soyhull / 25% Gluten (16 lbs max)	None	13.85%	85% Soyhull / 15% DDGS (16 lbs max)	None	14.6%	67% Soyhull / 33% Gluten (16 lbs max)	None	14.8%	80% Soyhull / 20% DDGS (16 lbs max)	None	15.75%	75% Soyhull / 25% DDGS (16 lbs max)	None	16.5%	50% Soyhull / 50% Gluten (16 lbs max)	None	22%	Corn Gluten Feed (Gluten) (8 lbs max)	None	30%	Distillers Dried Grains w/solubles (DDGS) (8 lbs max)	None	50%	Soybean Meal (4 lbs max)	None
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three stages of production (mid-gestation, late gestation, lactation). Calculations are based on a 1250 lb. cow in a body condition score of 5. An example of the input and output screens are shown below. Notice that the hay in this example would not need any supplementation for a cow in late gestation but would require supplementation after calving. In the latter case, approximately 3 lbs. of DGS should adequately meet the lactating cow's needs if she consumes 28 lbs. of hay. Remember there is a difference between hay consumption and hay disappearance. Knowing what your hay weighs and accounting for feeding waste is essential to estimating intake. Weigh a few rolls over truck scales to get an idea of bale weight. In most cases we tend to overestimate what round bales weigh. Once you have an idea of hay consumption, you can adjust the NDF number on the app to match what the cattle are consuming. A lower NDF value will estimate a higher hay intake and a higher NDF value will estimate a lower intake. Knowing the actual hay intake will enable you adjust supplement rates for a more accurate diet.

3) Monitor body condition. The old saying “the eye of the Master fattens the stock” is a very appropriate proverb for describing the typical winter feeding scenario. Developing an “eye of the Master” is essential to knowing if the feeding program is adequate. Even the best planned feeding program can be affected by adverse weather or other environmental issues. When we see cattle daily, we may become “barn blind” and not be able to see gradual changes in body condition. One idea to monitor condition is to take smart phone pictures every 2-3 weeks of certain cows or groups. This may make it easier to detect changes in condition and adjust feeding accordingly. Remember the goal is a body condition score of 5-6 at calving (no backbone, no middle ribs, no sharp hooks) and maintain this condition from calving to breeding.

Forage Analysis - Dry Matter Basis		Calculation Results		
Dry Matter <input type="text" value="90"/>		Lactation Crude Protein: 9% NDF: 60% TDN: 57%		
Crude Protein <input type="text" value="9"/>		Expected daily intake of this forage for a 1250 lb cow is 2% of body weight, or 25 lbs on a dry matter basis, or 28 lbs on an as fed basis.		
NDF <input type="text" value="60"/>		Protein	Supplement	Recommended Amount
TDN <input type="text" value="57"/>		8.5%	Corn (6 lbs max)	N/A
Stage of Production Lactation		11%	Soyhull (16 lbs max)	7.6 lbs
Supplements		13.75%	75% Soyhull / 25% Gluten (16 lbs max)	6.1 lbs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corn		13.85%	85% Soyhull / 15% DDGS (16 lbs max)	6 lbs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soyhull		14.6%	67% Soyhull / 33% Gluten (16 lbs max)	5.7 lbs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 75% Soyhull / 25% Gluten		14.8%	80% Soyhull / 20% DDGS (16 lbs max)	5.6 lbs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 85% Soyhull / 15% DDGS		15.75%	75% Soyhull / 25% DDGS (16 lbs max)	5.3 lbs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 67% Soyhull / 33% Gluten		16.5%	50% Soyhull / 50% Gluten (16 lbs max)	5.1 lbs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 80% Soyhull / 20% DDGS		22%	Corn Gluten Feed (Gluten) (8 lbs max)	3.8 lbs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 75% Soyhull / 25% DDGS		30%	Distillers Dried Grains w/solubles (DDGS) (8 lbs max)	3.1 lbs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50% Soyhull / 50% Gluten		50%	Soybean Meal (4 lbs max)	3.6 lbs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corn Gluten Feed (Gluten)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distillers Dried Grains w/solubles (DDGS)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soybean Meal				
<input type="button" value="Select All"/>	<input type="button" value="Clear Selection"/>			

We are currently in a unique situation with higher than average cattle prices coupled with higher input costs. The successful producers will be the ones that can adequately feed the cowherd to maintain reproductive performance while also keeping a handle on feed and input costs. Here's to a winter of little mud and favorable weather.



Clark County Extension

2024

WINTER SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 6, 8, 13

6:00 pm

Clark County Extension Service

1400 Fortune Drive; Winchester

NO COST!

Meal served each night!

FEBRUARY 6: BEEF NIGHT

- **Reading EPD's and How That Affects Buying Bulls**
Dr. Darrh Bullock, UK Beef Specialist
- **Fertilizer Needs for Pastures and Hay Fields After Drought**
Dr. Ray Smith, UK Forage Specialist
- **Benefits of Storing Hay Inside**
Levi Berg, Clark County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources

FEBRUARY 8: FARM NIGHT

- **The In's and Out's of Pond Construction**
Scott Aldridge, NRCS Resource Soil Specialist
- **Farm Planning and Layout for Water and Feed Areas**
Dr. Steve Higgins, UK Biosystems Specialist
- **NRCS Programs for Producers**
Heath Mineer, NRCS-Clark County, NRCS Programs for Producers

FEBRUARY 13: HORT NIGHT

- **Bats in Your Backyard**
Dr. Matt Springer, UK Assistant Extension Professor of Wildlife Management
- **Backyard Bites**
Dr. Jonathan Larson, UK Extension Entomologist

TO REGISTER:



859-744-4682



cynthia.carr@uky.edu

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Extension Service

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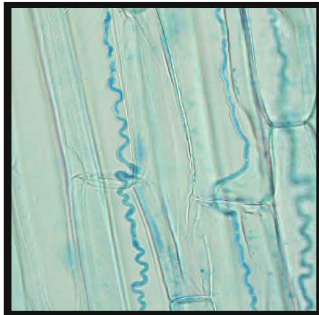
Disabilities
accommodated
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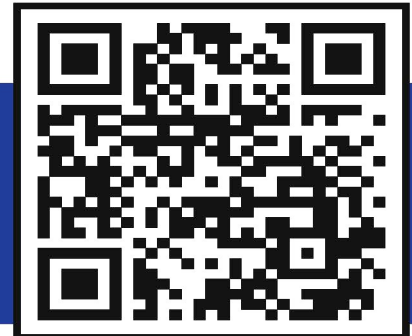
Equines & ENDOPHYTES WORKSHOP

JANUARY 31,
2024



FAYETTE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
1140 HARRY SYKES WAY
LEXINGTON, KY 40504

\$ 40 | Advanced Registration Required: <https://eew24.eventbrite.com>
Includes lunch and materials



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Goats and Sheep As A New Enterprise On Your Farm

Source: Lee Meyer, Extension Professor, Agricultural Economics

The idea of raising sheep and goats appeals to both beginning and experienced farmers across Kentucky. One advantage of small ruminants is their size. Compared to cattle, small ruminants are good for several reasons. First, you need less land. A typical stocking rate is about one-half acre for each ewe or nanny goat, compared to three to five acres for each cow. Small animals are easier to handle and manage when administering veterinary or basic health care. And the initial investment is much smaller than for cattle.

A well run enterprise should produce about two lambs or kids per female per year. To increase the size of the enterprise, you will want to keep female lambs or kids to breed. Holding on to animals rather than selling them will limit your income until the enterprise is the size you want. Prices are strong now, which does increase start-up costs. However, lambs and kids can bring over \$2 per pound.

Of course, cost remains an important consideration. The advantage of goats especially, is that they are foragers—they eat pasture and brush. This makes them a good fit for many parts of Kentucky, where some land is not well suited to row crops. Another consideration is fencing. Fencing may need upgrades, because sheep

and especially goats are hard to keep inside fences. Feed and mineral supplements are another cost. The most profitable sheep and goat enterprises depend upon pasture and use only a small amount of feed supplement. The price of purchased feed has gone up dramatically, so this is an important factor.



Marketing the product is another issue to consider. Both lambs and kids can be sold at established auction markets, with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture graded sales being the best. Auction sales take minimal marketing effort on the farmer's part—you just take them to market on sale day. Prices are currently quite good. Another option

to increase income further is selling directly to consumers, but this method takes increased effort over auction sales.

Finally, good managers can control potential pitfalls that may cause major headaches for novices. Predators such as coyotes and dogs can wreak havoc on your flock or herd. Having guard dogs is one of the best ways to protect your sheep and goats. Parasites are another issue that requires both management and medication.

For more about production, economics and marketing, visit <http://www.ca.uky.edu/agecan/> or contact the Clark Cooperative Extension Service at 859-744-4682

RECIPE

Slow Cooker BBQ Turkey Legs



Ingredients:

Servings: 6
Serving Size: 6 ounces of meat

- 2 wild turkey legs with thighs
- 1/4 teaspoon ground pepper
- 1/4 cup ketchup
- 1 8-ounce can no-salt-added tomato sauce
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons prepared yellow mustard
- 3 tablespoons vinegar
- 2 teaspoons paprika

Source: Cook Wild Kentucky Project

Directions:

1. Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds, especially after handling raw meat.
2. Season turkey meat with pepper and place in 6-quart slow cooker .
3. To make sauce, combine the remaining ingredients and stir well.
4. Pour sauce over turkey.
5. Cook, covered, in slow cooker on low for 7 hours, or until meat is tender and falls off the bone or has reached an internal temperature of 165 degrees F.

Nutrition facts per serving:

370 calories; 4.5g total fat; 1g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 170mg cholesterol; 470mg sodium; 12g total carbohydrate; 1g dietary fiber; 9g sugars; 7g added sugars; 72g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 4% Daily Value of calcium; 15% Daily Value of iron; 15% Daily Value of potassium.



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

Find this Cook Wild Kentucky recipe and others for Fish, Venison, Rabbit, Dove, Frog Legs, and more at: <https://planeatmove.com/recipes/>, then browse by Category, and choose Cook Wild Kentucky.