

# Clark County Ag and Natural Resources Newsletter



April 2023

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



## A Word from the Agent . . .

I feel like I am always talking about the weather, and we have had some strange weather in the last few months. I really thought that we were going to have an early spring, but mother nature decided to prove me wrong with a nice cold snap. However, it is finally starting to feel like a typical spring which means that it is time to start being outside. I can't wait for those warm spring walks that me and Henry will get to enjoy. Just remember, as you are out and about, take note of what your pastures and crop fields are doing. If something seems off or you need help identifying a weed, please call the extension office for help. For this month, you will find information on Hay and Haylage Moisture, New Vet/Antibiotic Rules, Wild Pigs, Ticks, and much more.

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



## Forage Management Tips for April:

- Graze cover crops using temporary fencing.
- As pasture growth begins, rotate through pastures quickly to keep up with the fast growth of spring.
- Creep-graze calves and lambs, allowing them access to highest-quality pasture.
- Finish re-seeding winter feeding sites where soil disturbance and sod damage occurred.
- As pasture growth exceeds the needs of the livestock, remove some fields from the rotation and allow growth to accumulate for hay or haylage.
- Determine need for supplemental warm season forages such as pearl millet or sudangrass.
- Flash graze pastures newly seeded with clovers to manage competition.

**IMPORTANT**

RSVP by  
Friday, April 14

Call or Text:  
(859) 744-2322

Email:  
[angela.embry@ky.nacdnet.net](mailto:angela.embry@ky.nacdnet.net)

## 2023 County Agriculture Investment Program (CAIP) Informational Meeting

The CAIP Informational Meeting will be held at the Clark County Conservation District's Annual Banquet on Tuesday, **April 18**, at the Clark County Extension Office, located at 1400 Fortune Drive. **Attending this meeting will add points to your CAIP application score.** Registration will begin at 6:00 pm followed by a meal, CAIP presentation, and awards ceremony.

Cooperative Extension Service  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.

# Antibiotic Stewardship - What to do Now to Prepare for Changes Ahead

Dr. Michelle Arnold, UK Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

On June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021, The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) finalized a Guidance for Industry (GFI) #263, which outlines the process for animal drug manufacturers to change all remaining antibiotic formulations used in animal health care from over-the-counter (OTC) to prescription status. Products commonly used by beef producers such as injectable penicillin and oxytetracycline (for example, LA-300) will no longer be available without a prescription from a veterinarian as of June 2023. Specifically, all dosage forms of medically important antimicrobials approved for use in animals will only be available from, or under the supervision of, a licensed veterinarian, and only when necessary for the treatment, control, or prevention of specific diseases. Producers will need to consult a veterinarian to obtain all antibiotics in any form (injectable, bolus, topical, intramammary) or to request a prescription to purchase them from a distributor.

FDA's goal through GFI #263 is to curb the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria and, in turn, reduce the risk of human infections that are difficult to treat due to ineffective antibiotics. To accomplish the goal, FDA is promoting the implementation of "responsible antibiotic stewardship practices in veterinary medicine" which are defined as "actions that preserve the effectiveness of antibiotics while maintaining animal health". Examples of responsible practices include 1) only using antibiotics when necessary to treat a sick animal; 2) establishing vaccination protocols and other disease prevention plans to reduce the need for antibiotics; and 3) livestock owners and veterinarians working together to make decisions to improve the overall animal health and welfare of the herd over the long term.

Given that this change is less than 6 months away, what can a livestock producer do now to prepare for it? For a veterinarian to legally sell or prescribe prescription products, FDA states, "A licensed veterinarian may legally use or dispense a prescription animal drug only within the course of her/his professional practice where a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists. Veterinarians employed by drug manufacturers or distributors may not legally dispense prescription drugs to laypersons unless they meet the above criteria. Similarly, practicing veterinarians or their employees may not legally sell prescription animal drugs to walk-in customers unless the same criteria are met." Therefore, the first step to do now is establish a valid veterinary-client-patient relationship

(VCPR). Kentucky has its own definition of a VCPR (see Box 1 below). Although the rules are straightforward, how to build a VCPR first requires communication with a veterinarian and asking the question "What do I need to do to establish and maintain a VCPR with you?" The law requires the veterinarian to be familiar with the client, the livestock, and the management of the animals on the farm through "medically appropriate and timely visits" to the place the animals are kept. Scheduling routine veterinary visits to the farm at intervals *established by the veterinarian* is a perfect way to meet this requirement. At a minimum, the veterinarian needs to know the livestock business you are in (commercial cow/calf; stocker/backgrounder; seedstock operation), what vaccines are routinely given and when, what diseases are recurring problems at the farm and how you typically treat them (for example, pinkeye, foot rot, bronchopneumonia, calf scours, etc.) and any health concerns that may be on the horizon. Some veterinarians will execute a written VCPR agreement although it is not required.

## Box 1

KRS Sec 321.185 Veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR)

(1) In order for a veterinarian to practice veterinary medicine, a relationship among the veterinarian, the client, and the patient shall be established and maintained.

"Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means that:

(a) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making judgments regarding the health of the animal and the need for veterinary treatment, and the client, whether owner or other caretaker, has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian;

(b) There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal. This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of an examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept; and

(c) The practicing veterinarian is readily available or shall provide medical service for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy. A new regimen of therapy shall be contingent only upon cooperation of the client and availability of the subject animal.

(2) The veterinarian shall maintain records which document patient visits, diagnosis, treatment, and other relevant information.

(cont. on page 3)

## Antibiotic Stewardship

(cont. from page 2)

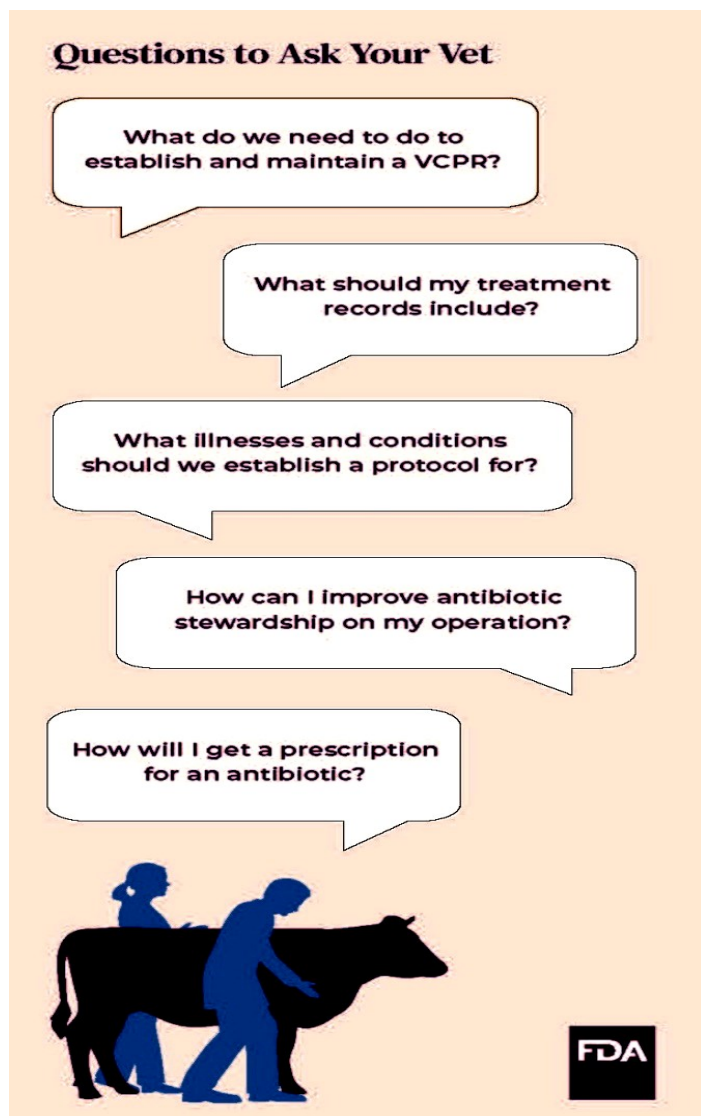


Figure 1: Excerpted from FDA "Antibiotic Stewardship in Veterinary Medicine" brochure; accessed 1/10/2023

Once the VCPR is established and recognized by both the client and the veterinarian, then the discussions can begin regarding how to obtain prescription antibiotics after June 2023. Working with the veterinarian to establish when antibiotics are necessary before illness occurs is crucial to having

the drugs on hand when needed. Setting up treatment protocols in advance with the veterinarian for common problems on your farm, including a written plan of when to treat an animal (also known as a "case definition"), what drug to use (dose, route of administration, how often to give it), what treatment records should be kept, and how withdrawal times will be recorded and observed will reduce the need for emergency veterinary visits and expedite treatment. An important piece of the protocol is to establish when an antibiotic treatment should be considered a failure and what the next step should be when failure is recognized. The treatment protocol needs to be discussed with every person on the farm who may be involved in identifying, pulling and treating an animal in the herd.

Although producers express frustration if a veterinarian does not honor a request for a prescription medication or veterinary feed directive (VFD), it is important to understand that any violative antibiotic residue detected at slaughter will result in an investigation of the veterinarian who prescribed the drug, even if the drug was administered improperly by the producer and/or instructions were not followed. In addition, if a drug is used in any manner differently from what is written on the label (known as Extra label drug use or ELDU), the meat withdrawal time usually must be extended. For example, if a higher than label dose is used, it changes when the residue concentrations will fall below the drug testing tolerance. Bear in mind that any drug delivered with a dart is considered extra label use and may require an extended withdrawal period, even when all other label directions are met. The only way a drug can legally be used extra label is when it is prescribed by a veterinarian, who must also issue an extended withdrawal interval. Veterinarians can contact the Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD) for guidance in establishing the required withdrawal time.

Bottom Line: *Talk to your veterinarian*, sooner rather than later!



## Clark County Cattlemen Meeting

**Tuesday, April 25, 2023**

**6:30 pm: Meal • 7:00 pm: Program**  
**Clark County Extension Service**

**BEEF MARKET UPDATE: ..... Kenny Burdine, UK Ag Economics**

**ANTIBIOTICS POLICY CHANGE .... Dr. Patrick Reister, Boonesboro Animal Clinic**



**Source: Matt Springer, UK Assistant Extension Professor of Wildlife Management**

Few things are scarier than encountering a wild pig in nature. Fortunately, this does not happen very often in Kentucky thanks to efforts of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services. You can help the departments continue to keep populations low by monitoring your land and reporting signs or sightings of wild pigs.

Wild pigs are one of the most destructive invasive species in the United States, causing substantial crop damage, competing with native wildlife for resources, altering wildlife habitat and threatening biological diversity.

They have established populations in states to our south and have been there since European settlers brought them to the U.S. in the 1500s. Their current range, however, doesn't extend as far north as Kentucky. Wild pigs usually get here when they are brought in from the south for hunting purposes or when livestock owners have escaped animals or lose track of free-range, domestic pigs. Pigs reproduce very quickly, sometimes having two litters in one year. It only takes two generations for a domestic pig to transform into a wild pig.

In nature, wild pigs will eat just about any and everything they can catch, which is one of the reasons they are so destructive. Their eating habits tend to displace native wildlife, including white-tailed deer and turkey. They also transmit at least 45 parasites and diseases to other wildlife, domestic livestock and sometimes humans.

Wild pigs have tracks similar to white-tailed deer, but they are rounder and wider with dewclaws angled outside of the hoof print. Wild pigs are also known to wallow and root. A tell-tale sign of wallowing is the trees near the occurrence will be coated with mud. Rooting damage is very similar to the effects of a garden tiller and can cover a large area.

If you see signs of wild pigs or have a sighting, call 800-858-1549 or report them on the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources website <https://fw.ky.gov/InvasiveSpecies/Pages/Wild-Pig-Home.aspx>. The department and the USDA Wildlife Services will work to monitor and trap the invasive species. This service is free, and trapping is the most efficient way to get rid of wild pigs, which can travel in large numbers called sounders.

More information on this invasive species is available in the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service publication "FOR 160: Monitoring for and Controlling Wild Pig Populations in Kentucky." The publication is available online at <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/FOR/FOR160/FOR160.pdf> or by contacting the Clark County Extension office at 859-744-4682.

**Organized and Sponsored by the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council, UK Cooperative Extension Service, and the Master Grazer Program**

*This program is designed for producers and agricultural professionals to learn the newest fencing methods and sound fencing construction through a combination of classroom and hands-on learning*

**WHEN:**

**April 13** - Richmond, KY

**WHERE:**

SMK Agricultural Venue  
401 Brookstown Rd  
Richmond, KY 40475

**COST:**

**\$35/participant**

(includes notebook, refreshments, safety glasses, hearing protection, and catered lunch)



**Registration DEADLINE:**

2 weeks prior to workshop

**ONLINE Registration with Credit Card:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Richmond, KY [https://2023\\_Richmond\\_KY\\_Fencing\\_School.event](https://2023_Richmond_KY_Fencing_School.event)

\*\*\*\*\*

Registration by U.S. Mail: Christi Forsythe  
348 University Drive  
Princeton, KY 42445

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

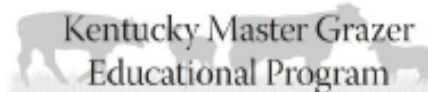
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of participants \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35 per participant = \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost



**Make CHECKS payable to: KFGC**

**2023 Kentucky Fencing Schools**



For more information contact Krista Lea at 270-625-0712 or [Christi.Forsythe@uky.edu](mailto:Christi.Forsythe@uky.edu)

# Upcoming Poultry Webinars



## Daily Management of a Home Poultry Incubator

**April 4, 2023**

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm (EDT)

For those wanting to hatch out small batches of fertile eggs, a home incubator is a great opportunity to do so. Ron Kean from the University of Wisconsin will be discussing the day-to-day management of a home incubator to maximize hatchability.

**Register in advance for this webinar:**

<https://uky.zoom.us/webinar/re...PT0jZHQAUHN-mEmtzmbg>



## Hatching Waterfowl Eggs in a Home Incubator

**May 4, 2023**

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm (EDT)

Last month's webinar was on the daily management of a home incubator, focusing primarily on chickens. This month's webinar will look specifically at hatching waterfowl eggs, which have different incubator requirements than chickens and turkeys.

**Register in advance for this webinar:**

[https://uky.zoom.us/webinar/re...U2QgkBTraS6G5\\_7FDFpw](https://uky.zoom.us/webinar/re...U2QgkBTraS6G5_7FDFpw)

## RECIPE

### Asparagus Tomato Salad

**1 pound** of fresh asparagus, trimmed and cut into 1-inch pieces  
**1** small zucchini, halved and cut into ¼ inch slices  
**3 tablespoons** olive oil  
**2 tablespoons** red wine vinegar  
**1** garlic clove, minced

**¼ teaspoon** seasoned salt  
**¼ teaspoon** honey mustard  
**1 cup** cherry or grape tomatoes, halved  
**¼ cup** sliced green onions  
**¼ cup** shredded fresh mozzarella cheese  
**¼ cup** minced fresh parsley

**Place** the asparagus and zucchini in a steamer basket. **Place** in a saucepan over 1 inch of boiling water. **Cover** and **steam** for 2 minutes. **Rinse** in cold water. In large bowl, **whisk together** olive oil, red wine vinegar, garlic, seasoned salt and honey mustard. **Pour** over asparagus mixture; **toss** to coat. **Toss** in

tomatoes and green onions. **Sprinkle** with mozzarella cheese and parsley.

**Yield:** 6 servings

**Nutritional Analysis:**

110 calories, 7 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 35 mg sodium, 5 g carbohydrate, 2 g fiber, 3 g sugar, 4 g protein.



Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand.