

New Ground

Barren County Agriculture/Horticulture Newsletter

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Chris Schalk

Chris A. Schalk

Barren County Extension Agent for
Agriculture

A Message from Your Agriculture Agent

2022 is quickly winding down, and this time of the year brings thoughts of thanksgiving, reflection and hope for a brighter 2023. 2022 gave us drought, inflation, and much uncertainty. Barren County producers faced these challenges head on in the hopes of a brighter future. Traditionally that's what rural farm folks have done, faced the future head on. However this boldness can be very lonely and difficult to manage mentally. The rural and agriculture community is seeing an alarming number of chemical dependency issues as well suicide. During the holiday season folks can feel isolated, alone, and desperate. But it doesn't have to be this way. Rural America has always been there to bring aid to friend, and neighbors. Today more than ever we need to reach out to community members. Everyone is busy. Everyone is looking for more time in each day. During the holiday season let's all make an effort to call or stop by a neighbor's house or farm. You say you don't get out as much as you used to, then send someone a hand written note or card. Humans need the company of other humans. Be a light this holiday season.

Inside this issue of New Ground you'll find information on upcoming educational programs. Most are in person, some are virtual and some are both. Let's use the cold winter months as a time to learn something new.

All the folks here at the Extension office wish you the very best holiday season. On behalf of my family and I we want to wish each of you're a very Merry Christmas and hope 2023 brings you much joy and happiness.

Tri County Hay & Straw Auction

The Annual Hay & Straw Auction will be held on Saturday, January 28, 2023 @ 10:00 AM at the Metcalfe County Fairgrounds.

- Large Squares
- Rolls
- Small Squares
- All hay will be weighed and tested for nutritional value. **NO COMMISSION!!**
- 5% buyers premium \$25/lot no sale fee



To consign hay or stray, call you local extension office

Metcalfe: Brandon Bell, 270-432-3561
Barren: Chris Schalk, 270-651-3818
Monroe: Kevin Lyons, 270-487-5504

Proceeds from commission will go to benefit the Metcalfe County Fair.

2023 Tobacco GAP Training

The 2023 Tobacco Gap Training will be held on Monday, March 13, 2023 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Barren County Trojan Academy located at 505 Trojan Trail, Glasgow KY 4241. Please bring you GAP card and photo ID.

No meal will be served.



Virtual option available

Complete Beef Quality & Care Assurance (BQCA)

January 5

CLASSES WILL BE OFFERED:

9:00 AM OR 6:00 PM

Please call 270.651.3818 to register

Holiday Decorating With Fresh Greenery

Evergreens, which have played a role in winter decorating since ancient times, represent everlasting life and hope for the return of spring. They are great for indoor and outdoor decorating. Table centerpieces, winter containers, garlands, swags, and wreaths are all fun projects for using fresh greenery.

There are many different types of greenery that work well for decorating. A few of these are - White Pine, Holly, Magnolia, Junipers, Boxwood, Nandinas, and Cedars. A great place to look for fresh greenery may be in your own yard and woodlands. When gathering your materials remember that you are actually pruning the trees and shrubs, so pay attention to the overall shape of the plant that you are pruning and make the cuts to preserve the natural shape.

- Use clean, sharp tools to make the cut and immediately put the cut ends in water.
- Crush the ends of woody stems. This allows them to take in more water.

For a table centerpiece –

- You will need - assorted fresh greenery, block of wet floral foam, floral tape, hand pruners, a container, and pine cones, ribbon, raffia, ornaments, etc. to add the finishing touches.
- Wet the block of floral foam, insert in your container and secure it using the floral tape.
- Cut your stems at a 45-degree angle to allow the water to flow easily through the stem.
- Insert greenery in the floral foam using the “thriller” (tall plants), “filler” (round, mounding plants), and “spiller” (plants that drape) method.
- Finish the arrangement with the pine cones, ribbon or raffia, ornaments, etc.
- Keep the floral foam moist for a long lasting centerpiece.

For a winter outdoor container –

- Spruce up the plant pots that you used for your summer gardening.
- When I clean out my summer plants I leave the soil in the pots and then, when creating my winter container, I insert the greenery into the soil.
- Again, use the “thriller, filler, spiller” method to fill the plant pot with fresh greenery and interesting twigs.
- Add finishing touches with berries, pine cones, solar lights, oversized ornaments, etc.
- Keep the soil moist and your container will be pretty for several weeks.

The most important tip for decorating with your fresh greenery.....HAVE FUN!!!!



Pat Baker,
Master Gardener

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**BARREN COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
WINTER 2023**

JANUARY 5 BEEF QUALITY & CARE ASSURANCE 9AM OR 6PM—BARREN CO. EXTENSION OFFICE

JANUARY 12 PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING 9AM OR 6PM—BARREN CO. EXTENSION OFFICE

JANUARY 23 BEEF WEANING ECONOMICS 6PM—METCALFE CO. EXT. OFFICE OR ZOOM

JANUARY 28 TRI COUNTY HAY & STRAW AUCTION 10AM—METCALFE CO. FAIRGROUNDS

JANUARY 31 GARDEN SMARTER-SOILS & SOIL FERTILITY 6PM—BARREN CO. EXTENSION OFFICE

FEBRUARY 7 GRAIN PRODUCTION UPDATE 9AM—BARREN CO. EXTENSION OFFICE

FEBRUARY 28 GARDEN SMARTER—FRUIT TREE PRUNING 6PM—BARREN CO. EXTENSION OFFICE

MARCH 6 TRAILER & TOWING SAFETY 6PM—ALLEN CO. EXTENSION OFFICE OR ZOOM

MARCH 9 PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING 9AM OR 6PM—BARREN CO. EXTENSION OFFICE

MARCH 13 TOBACCO GAP TRAINING 6PM—TROJAN ACADEMY

• PLEASE CALL THE BARREN CO. EXTENSION OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THESE EVENTS. 270-651-3818

• VIDEO/VIRTUAL OPTIONS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN ADDITIONS TO ZOOM OPTIONS LISTED ABOVE.

Private Pesticide Applicator Training

January 12 at 9:00 AM OR 6:00 PM

February 7 at 9:00 AM

March 9 at 9:00 AM OR 6:00 PM



All trainings will be held at the Barren County Extension Office located at 1463 West Main Street, Glasgow. Please call 270.651.3818 to reserve your spot

***In person dicamba training on February 7th**

GARDEN SMARTER



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

SOILS & SOIL FERTILITY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2023

🕒 6:00 PM

📍 BARREN COUNTY
EXTENSION OFFICE

FRUIT TREE PRUNING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023

🕒 6:00 PM

📍 BARREN COUNTY
EXTENSION OFFICE



Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

Grain Production Update

February 7, 2023
9:00 AM

Barren Co. Extension Office
1463 West Main Street
Glasgow KY 42141
RSVP @ 270.651.3818

LUNCH
PROVIDED

2023 Dicamba Training

Phil Rowland & Lewis Bradley

Fertilizer Additives

Dr. Edwin Ritchey

Tips to Increase Productivity

Dr. Chad Lee

Private Pesticide Applicator Training

ANR Agents

**PRESENTED
BY:**

Adam Huber, Allen County ANR
Chris Schalk, Barren County ANR
Adam Estes, Hart County ANR
Brandon Bell, Metcalfe County ANR
Kevin Lyons, Monroe County ANR

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