

CARTER COUNTY
AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES
NEWSLETTER



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

Carter County

94 Fairground Drive Grayson, KY 41143

Phone: (606) 474-6686 Fax: (606) 474-8542

extension.ca.uky.edu

June & July 2023 Upcoming Events

Denotes events where preregistration is required. Call 474-6686 or email Rebecca.k@uky.edu to register.

June 6 @ 6:30 PM	Little Sandy Beekeepers —Extension Office
June 6 & 7—8:30-4:00	Seniors Call 474-6686 to Schedule Farmer's Market Voucher Appointments
June 9 @ 6:00 PM	Ag Advancement Council —Extension Council
June 15	* Senior Voucher Distribution (by appointment only) - Extension Office*
June 16	* Senior Voucher Distribution (by appointment only) - Olive Hill Elementary*
June 16 @ 8:00 AM	* Kentucky First Farm Beginning Farmer Workshop —RCARS*
June 20 @ 7:00 PM	* Woodland Owner's Short Course Begins —Online*
June 24 @ 9:00 AM	* Farm to Table Breakfast *
June 30 @ 3:30 PM	Deadline to submit CAIP receipts and educational form to the Soil Conservation Office for reimbursement.
July 1 @ 8:00 AM	Olive Hill Farmer's Market Opens
July 6 @ 9:00 AM	Hike & Learn —Bit O'Time Vintage Lake Retreat
July 8 @ 9:00 AM	Grayson Farmer's Market Opens
July 10 @ 3:00 PM	Double Dollar Days for Senior Vouchers —Olive Hill Farmer's Market
July 11 @ 10:00 AM	Extension District Board
July 15 @ 9:00 AM	Double Dollar Days for Senior Vouchers —Grayson Farmer's Market
July 17 @ 3:00 PM	Farmer's Market Kid's Day - Olive Hill Farmer's Market
July 20	Third Thursday Thing —Fencing & Pasture Poultry—KY State University
July 29 @ 9:30 AM	Farmer's Market Kid's Day —Grayson Farmer's Market
August 1 @ 6:30 PM	Little Sandy Beekeepers —Extension Office

Enjoy your newsletter,

Rebecca Konopka,

Carter County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources Education

Thank you all for the kind words, calls, messages, visits, gifts, thoughts & prayers during the tragic loss of my husband. They were all greatly appreciated!

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.

Little Sandy Beekeepers Association

First Tuesday of the Month @ 6:30 PM

June 6th @ 6:30 PM

Speaker: Max Runzel, CEO of Hive Tracks

No Meeting in July

August 1st @ 6:30 PM

Speaker:



July 6th @ 9:00 AM

Bit O' Time Vintage Lake Retreat

194 Davis Drive - Olive Hill, KY

Pamela Howard will be leading us on some trails near the Bit O' Time Vintage Lake Retreat at Grayson Lake. Meet at the lake house so we can carpool to the trail heads.

August 3rd @ 9:00 AM

Grayson Lake US Army Corp of Engineers Fishing and Nature Trails & Dam Tour

*Bring your own snacks & drinks.

*Wear closed-toe shoes.

*All Hike & Learn activities are free.

*Sign up to receive Hike & Learn reminders, updates, and cancellation notifications by scanning this code.



KID'S DAY

OLIVE HILL:
Mon. July 17th 3:00p-4:30p

GRAYSON:
Sat. July 29th 9:30a-11:00a

Sponsored by **Anthem**

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PrimaryPlus
Grayson

KENTUCKY DOUBLE DOLLARS

Olive Hill: Mon. July 10th
3:00pm-4:30pm

Grayson: July 15th
9:00am-10:30am

FARM TO TABLE *Breakfast*

June 24, 2023 at 9 am

Carter Caves Lodge Lower Parking Lot
344 Caveland Drive, Olive Hill, Kentucky

Ticket: \$20

Ticket sales to benefit Bethany House

*A Community Table
celebrating our bounty of
local produce and providers*

Sponsored by Carter County Tourism

ON THE MENU

- Sausage
- Bacon
- Ham
- Eggs
- Omelet station
- Potatoes
- Gravy and biscuits
- Assortment of local honey, homemade jams and jellies

Tickets can be purchased by contacting.

Bethany House
606-286-5045

Chris Perry
606-316-0435

Renee Stewart
606-316-1933

Kara Johnson
606-316-4175



Carter County residents age 60 and older, who meet the financial requirements:

CALL: 474-6686
Tues. June 6th & Wed. June 7th
8:30AM-4:00PM

You must call to schedule an appointment to sign up for senior vouchers. Even if you still have last year's card, you must make an appointment to get it reactivated

**APPOINTMENTS WILL BE MADE:
ONLY BY PHONE
ONLY ON THESE DATES &
ONLY IN THIS ALLOTTED TIME PERIOD**

ATTENTION SENIORS



If you picked up a gardening bag at one of our events last month, don't forget to send a picture of your child's Farmer's Market coloring sheet and/or a picture of them with their plants in the garden for a chance to win Farmer's Market Kid's Bucks! Pictures can be sent to our Facebook page @CarterCokYA or Rebecca.k@uky.edu.

LOCALLY GROWN



Carter County FARMER'S MARKET

GRAYSON

Located at the Farmer's Market Shed behind the Extension Office

OPENING DAY: JULY 8TH

Seasonal Hours:

Saturdays 9:00am-Noon or SELL OUT

OLIVE HILL

Located in the parking lot across from Save-a-Lot

OPENING DAY: JULY 1ST

Seasonal Hours:

Mondays 3:00pm-SELL OUT

Wednesdays & Saturdays

8:00am-SELL OUT

Beginning Farmer Workshop Scheduled for June 16th at RCARS

The Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program, or Kentucky First Farm, is hosting a workshop for beginning farmers on Friday, June 16th, at the University of Kentucky Robinson Center for Appalachian Resource Sustainability (RCARS) in Jackson. The workshop is designed to help beginning farmers of 10 years or less get a start on their new agricultural business. It will include extension information, business plan writing, legal considerations, funding opportunities, speakers on topics of agricultural interest, networking, and a farm tour. The workshop, which will be held from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. EDT, is free. To find out more about Kentucky First Farm, visit <https://bfrdp.ca.uky.edu/>. To register for the June 16th workshop, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/kentucky-first-farm-tickets-638701091157>.

Kentucky First Farm



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Kentucky Woodland Owners Short Course

June - July 2023

On-line Sessions
Via Zoom
7 - 8:30 p.m.
Eastern

-  **June 20**
Your Trees, Your Woodlands, Your Options
-  **June 22**
Woodlands and Climate Change
-  **June 27**
Wildlife and Woodlands
-  **June 29**
Woodland Health

Registration for all 4 on-line sessions: \$10 per person

Registration for all 4 on-line sessions, 1 field session with lunch, a clipboard binder, and reference resources: \$20 per person/\$30 couple

 Field Session Locations (9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.):
July 15 - Pennyrile State Forest (Christian County - Central time)
July 29 - Elk Caves Farm (Boyle/Casey counties - Eastern time)

Register at <https://wosc.ca.uky.edu/>

Contact Us:
 Forestry.Extension@uky.edu
 859.257.7597
<https://wosc.ca.uky.edu/>

 College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
Forestry and Natural Resources Extension

Weeds of the Month

Weeds to Target in June: Amaranth (Pigweed), Queen Anne's Lace, Cocklebur, Hemp Dogbane, Goldenrod, Tall Ironweed, Jimsonweed, Sericea Lespedeza, Marshelder, Perilla Mint, Multiflora Rose, Maypop Passionflower, Pokeweed, Ragweed, Arrowleaf Sida, Bitter Sneezeweed, Nodding Spurge, Tickclover

Weeds to Target in July: Amaranth (Pigweed), Aster, Cocklebur, Hemp Dogbane, Goldenrod, Horsenettle, Tall Ironweed, Jimsonweed, Sericea Lespedeza, Marshelder, Milkweed, Perilla Mint, Maypop Passionflower, Pokeweed, Ragweed, Arrowleaf Sida, Bitter Sneezeweed, Nodding Spurge, Tickclover

See AGR-207 in January's newsletter on online at tinyurl.com/5uusk6np for recommended chemical and mowing options for these weeds.

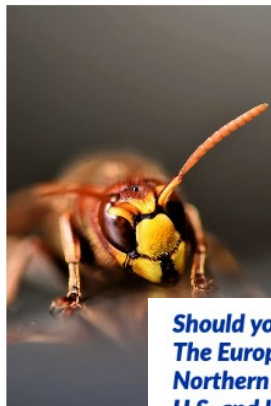
Equipment Available for Checkout

The following equipment is available to use or check out the from the Extension Office:

- *Hay Moisture & Temperature Tester
- *Electrical Conductivity & pH Meters
- *Honey Extractor, Uncapping Knife & Oxalic Acid Vaporizer
- *Rice Pelvimeter to check pelvic measurements on heifers.
- *Soil Probes
- *Callicrate Pro Bander (Producers will need to purchase bands from the Extension Office.)
- *Grain Moisture Tester (Not available for checkout, but we can test corn and soybean moisture content for you.)

Please call the office to check availability and schedule a time to pick up equipment prior to visiting the Extension Office. All equipment must be returned the following week.

European Hornets vs. Murder Hornets



Should you be concerned?
The European hornet is non-native, like the Northern giant hornet, but has been in the U.S. and Kentucky for over 150 years at this point. They are a stinging pest, particularly when their nest is threatened. Worker hornets will vigorously defend the colony and each individual hornet can sting multiple times. They can be commonly encountered in the woods, but they are attracted to perimeter lights at night, and sometimes queens may construct their nest in an attic or wall void. Turning off outside lights can result in less attraction to your property and pest proofing, as has been previously described, can keep them from attics and wall voids.

“You Don’t Know What You Don’t Know”

Dr. Les Anderson, Extension Professor, University of Kentucky

Centuries ago, the Greek philosopher Socrates coined the phrase “You don’t know what you don’t know”. I randomly heard this last week, and it struck me how apropos this is to cow-calf producers and the beef industry. So, what “don’t you know”?

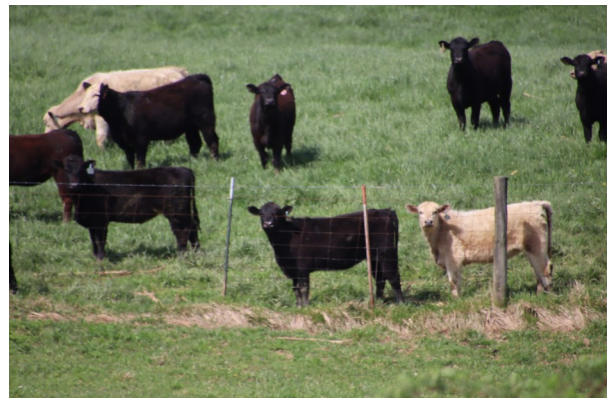
According to the USDA NAHMS survey in 2017, less than 20% of cow-calf producers in the US obtain a breeding soundness exam (BSE) on their bulls. A breeding soundness exam is performed by your herd veterinarian and is designed to identify INFERTILE bulls; those bulls that do not have the ability to breed cows. A BSE is inexpensive insurance that your bull can breed cows. It eliminates bulls that have physical issues that would prevent them from breeding cows, and it eliminates bulls that no longer can produce viable sperm. A producer occasionally, but not always, can tell if a bull pulls up lame and if they have an injury to the reproductive tract. But it is impossible to determine if the bull no longer produces viable sperm without performing a BSE. So “you don’t know what you don’t know” unless you have a BSE done annually in your herd sires.

This same USDA survey, less than 20% of cow-calf producers have pregnancy diagnosed in their herd. Pregnancy diagnosis is another simple, inexpensive tool that can be used to help increase production efficiency and profitability. Pregnancy can be determined via rectal palpation (including ultrasound) by your herd veterinarian. Rectal palpation can not only indicate if a cow is pregnant but can also indicate the stage of pregnancy to help plan calving. Pregnancy can also be determined using blood sampling, but blood sampling only provides pregnant or non-pregnant information. Researchers in Ag Economics at UK (Erol and Dillion) have developed a model that demonstrates pregnancy diagnosis increases revenue by 69% in typical beef cow-calf operations. This model assumes that open cows without a calf at side are culled. If cow-calf operators don’t get pregnancy diagnosed, when do they realize their cow will not produce a calf? Again, without pregnancy diagnosis, “you don’t know what you don’t know”.

The last example is record keeping. Beef cattle producers are exceptional note takers (we seem to write a bunch of information down) but we are terrible record keepers. What’s the difference? A record keeper takes their notes, creates a report, and uses the data to make management decisions. Creating reports from handwritten records stinks, can be a time-consuming task, and is likely what prevents most cattle producers from using records. A great option for a producer is to use an electronic method for record keeping but survey data indicates that only 3% of beef producers use electronics to manage their records. So, we are an industry of note takers, we are an industry of “you don’t know what you don’t know”.

If we are not keeping records, how are we making sound management decisions? Instead of “knowing”, we guess, or, in most cases, we try to remember. The UK IRM Farm program helped connect producers with information including information about their own operations. We taught cattle producers how to keep and use records to run their small business (cattle). Within two years, revenue was increased by 34% on the 147 farms that participated. The key.....keep records and make management decisions based upon the data. Our goal with this program was to reduce “what you don’t know”, record the results, and use the data to improve management. The average size of these farms was 40 cows and managing with data helped increase the percentage of cows that weaned a calf, the pounds of calf weaned per cow exposed, and gross revenue. On these farms, producers stopped guessing and started managing and it made a difference.

Running cattle as your side business is not generally a high-profit small business venture. Most cattle producers are in it because they love it. I argue that producers can love it and make money at the same time. How? “You know when you know”!



Hanging by a Thread

By Cheryl Kaiser, Plant Pathology Extension Support, & Nicole Gauthier, Plant Pathology Extension Specialist; Photos: John Hartman, UK) Dead, curled leaves dangling by fungal “threads” are typical of a disease called thread blight. This disease is more common in eastern Kentucky, where it has been observed on apple, cherry, and viburnum. Other potential hosts include cotoneaster, dogwood, gooseberry, and rose. Unlike fire blight, which kills branch tips, thread blight begins on interior portions of trees (Figure 1).

Thread Blight Facts

- ⇒ Caused by the fungus *Corticium stevensii* (formerly *Ceratobasidium stevensii*).
- ⇒ Infected leaves wilt, turn brown, and remain attached to branches by a network of fungal strands (rhizomorphs).
- ⇒ Silvery-tan rhizomorphs (aggregation of thread-like fungal structures) and tan to brown sclerotia (fungal overwintering structure) develop on the surface of branches (Figure 2) and fruit.
- ⇒ Disease is favored by moist, shady conditions.
- ⇒ Generally not a problem in well-managed apple orchards where a fungicide program is followed.



Figure 1. Thread blight kills foliage mid-branch; note how leaves at the branch tip are still alive.

Management Options

To prevent thread blight

- ⇒ Selectively prune branches to improve air circulation and sunlight penetration within trees.
- ⇒ Orchardists should follow a fungicide spray program. Thread blight can be managed with fungicides beginning in mid-June when the fungus becomes active; studies have shown that Merivon, Pristine, and Topsin-M can help reduce disease incidence and severity when used as preventatives.
- ⇒ Avoid planting apple and susceptible landscape plants in low lying, shaded locations.

When thread blight is present

- ⇒ Once established in an orchard, thread blight can be difficult to eliminate due to long term survival of the sclerotia.
- ⇒ Where disease occurrences are minimal, prune and destroy infected branches.



Figure 2. Tan fungal threads (rhizomorphs) and sclerotia (arrows) on branches are diagnostic for this disease.

Start Monitoring for Garden Pests Today

By Jonathan L. Larson, Entomology Extension Specialist

Whether it's slugs, squash vine borer, or Colorado potato beetle, home gardeners know that every year some creepy crawly is looking for a free meal in their vegetable patch. Unfortunately, pest management in home gardens often relies on a reactive, spray-oriented approach to these pests rather than taking a more engaged attitude that helps to prevent problems. You can change that through integrated pest management and focusing on monitoring for pests before they become a true issue.

Integrated Pest Management—Integrated pest management, also known as IPM, is a philosophy of pest management that intends to use all the available tools at our disposal to help suppress pest populations. This can look different depending on the pest being managed and the situation in which the pest is an issue. In the home garden, some simple pest management tools can include cultural methods such as:

- ⇒ Fall garden sanitation, which removes overwintering habitat for pests,
- ⇒ Physical methods, such as floating row covers, which exclude pests from plants, and
- ⇒ insecticidal control, such as spraying Bt when dealing with caterpillars.

IPM is not an organic approach necessarily; IPM can include synthetic insecticides when they are the appropriate method of suppression.

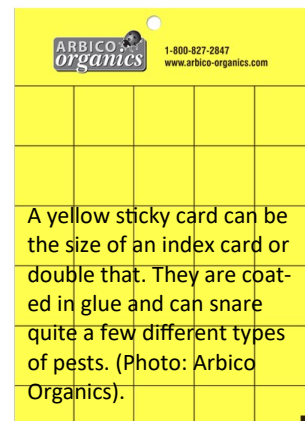
Need for Monitoring—IPM can only be successful when monitoring is included as a step in the process. Large scale growers, home pest control operators, and even mosquito abatement coordinators all use monitoring to know where their target pest populations are in their life cycle and population size. Home gardeners, too, need to remember this important tactic. Monitoring for signs and symptoms of insects and other arthropods allows you to know if your management tools, like sanitation, have been successful or can also tell you when to enact physical control strategies, such as floating row covers or when to spray specific insecticides. Monitoring is also the easiest thing to neglect in a pest management plan; it takes time and resources and can seem like a drain (especially when you aren't catching anything).

This spring, you can commit to using monitoring to better understand what pests are trying to infiltrate your garden. The simplest form of monitoring is to just use your eyes to look for known pests in the garden; they tend to be visible, and if they aren't noticeable, then the damage they create will be. Holes chewed into leaves or flowers, cupped and curled leaves, honeydew on leaves, and insect droppings—all of these methods can help with identification of a problem and tell you it's time to act. You can also get a little more technical and start using traps to catch pests even earlier in the process.

Trapping for Garden Pests—First, trapping for garden pests should not be considered a control tactic. The tools listed here likely won't suppress pest populations in your garden. They will tell you what pests are around though, so consider them sentries or security guards for you. This list also isn't comprehensive but should be a good start for those who are interested. Finally, traps only work if they are checked. Putting out any of these traps in May and then remembering it in September means that it wasn't monitoring, but just slowly rotting in the field. Check traps every other day or weekly, as your schedule allows, to look for possible upcoming pest problems.

- ⇒ Yellow sticky cards: These glue-covered traps will work for monitoring aphids, thrips, whiteflies, mealybugs, mites, and fungus gnats. They work in the home garden as well as near houseplants or in high tunnels. The cards should be placed at plant height and adjusted through the growing season to track with the tops of plants. They can be clipped to bamboo poles or other objects to achieve this.
- ⇒ Baited traps: Using shallow containers (such as water dishes, lids to jars, etc. or 2-liter bottles with the top 1/3rd cut and then inverted into the rest of the bottle) you can create a baited trap that pests will be attracted to but will be unable to escape from. Baits can include beer (for slugs), fruit juices (for various pests), or apple cider vinegar (various fly pests), amongst others.
- ⇒ Yellow bowl traps: A yellow plastic bowl filled with soapy water can attract and capture things like squash vine borer, aphids, and many other pests. The bowls act as a super stimulus the insects can't ignore, and the soapy water will kill them as they fly in.
- ⇒ Board or newspaper traps: Placing boards or newspaper on the ground in the garden can create an attractive harborage for squash bugs, slugs, and other garden pests. These can be checked in the morning for pest presence and can also be a good "corral" where you can kill pest groups early in the morning before they warm up and get moving.
- ⇒ Trap plants: These are low cost, easy to grow plants that can be placed near desired plants to act as a monitoring plant. They are attractive to specific pests and will recruit them before the actual crop does. Once on the trap plant, you can either control them there or enact a protective measure for your actual crops. Blue Hubbard squash (squash bugs and squash vine borer), sunflowers (stinkbugs), amaranth (cucumber beetles), and marigolds (mites) are some examples.

With these traps in the garden, you'll be better prepared to catch pests before they cause damage and hopefully end up with more produce on the table this summer!



A yellow bowl trap can be used particularly for assessing when squash vine borer adults are flying. Once you capture a moth in the trap, you can treat your plants or place a row cover to prevent the females from laying eggs. (Photo: Luciana Musetti, The Ohio State University).



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 94 Fairground Drive
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JUNE/JULY 2023

CARTER COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER

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