

# All Farmer Newsletter

*Agriculture & Natural Resources Extension Newsletter*

## In This Issue:

**A Wet Spring & Dry Summer**

**Farming 101**

**Antique Tractor & Implement Show**

**Mammoth Cave Hay Contest**

**Master Cattlemen**

**Beef Bash**

**Kissing Bugs**

**SOKY Pesticide**

**Nine Banded Armadillos**

**Dates to Remember**

**Boofest**

**Cook Wild Kentucky Recipe**

## Ag Report

**Remember to tune your  
radio to 92.3 FM WFKN  
at 8:05 am every  
Tuesday & Thursday  
morning for the  
Extension Agriculture  
report.**





**Jason R. Phillips**  
County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural  
Resources Education

## A Wet Spring and Dry Summer Make for Wild Yield Swings

Most of the regions in Kentucky growing corn and soybeans received between 40 to 51 inches of rain by the first week of July. Most of those same regions have received very little or scattered rains since. The timing of when corn and soybeans were planted and when they are scheduled to mature will make for some wild yield swings in 2025. Simpson County had recorded 41.43" at the Mesonet site located in southern Simpson County on Kummer Road by the beginning of July. We then recorded 5.5" during the month of July at the Mesonet. Then from July 28<sup>th</sup> through the entire month of August until September 5<sup>th</sup>, we only recorded 0.14" during critical growth and development periods for our soybeans and late planted corn. Dr. Chad Lee does a wonderful job summarizing our current situations with corn and soybeans in south central and western Kentucky below.

### Corn

Corn planted on time in the western regions of Kentucky is being harvested now. Reports are coming in of excellent to phenomenal yields in some of those fields. Corn in those fields had plenty of water in the soil to complete seed fill. The dry weather during the latter phases of seed fill helped keep diseases away and allowed for rapid drydown after that corn reached blacklayer. The combination of favorable moisture for seed fill and dry weather during kernel drydown often favors better grain quality.

Corn planted a few weeks or a month later has had a more difficult challenge. Most of that corn made it through pollination with little issues. But, the dry weather through seed set and seed fill reduced kernel number and is likely reducing kernel weight. Kernel drydown after blacklayer should be rapid, but yields are likely to be below five-year averages. Normally, we might expect these conditions to lower test weights. But, for some fields the dry weather was so long that test weight may be just fine even if yields are off target.

Corn planted into wet conditions that resulted in sidewall compaction or subsurface compaction have run out of water prematurely and yields will be lower. Yields will be much lower in some of those fields.

On a very general observation, corn west of Leitchfield and south of Horse Cave that was planted on time and into good conditions should have good to excellent yields. Corn from about Leitchfield eastward was planted later due to heavy rains and experienced more severe drought conditions during seed fill. Yields are likely to be less overall in these areas.

### Soybeans

This year, full season soybeans are likely to fair much better than double-crop soybeans...unless those double-crop soybeans get some timely, frequent gentle rains the next two weeks. In the Bluegrass Region, I have watched a soybean field on an eroded slope go backwards for the last three weeks until 80% of the plants passed the wilting point in the field. This is the extreme case and is repeated in small areas of fields around the state.

Soybeans have a better chance to escape short periods of stress because they have multiple locations on a plant to develop flowers, pods and seeds. In September, there are very little opportunities for soybeans to add more pods to plants ... unless we have an unusually warm September, timely rainfalls and a late frost.

For many full season soybean fields, I am expecting to see decent seed numbers but smaller seed sizes. For double-crop fields, I am expecting to see lower seed number and lower seed size, resulting in lower yields.

This dry weather will identify all the thin soils in a field. Those soybeans will shut down faster than soybeans in the better areas. Aerial photos of fields taken as the soybeans in the thin soils mature faster could be compared with soils maps and previous yield maps to help confirm precision management strategies.

### Timing is Critical

Once again, this year reminds all of us how important timing of rainfall is. Even though our annual rainfall totals will be above normal, many of the corn and soybean fields had less than average rainfall totals when water was needed the most. That timing will be the biggest difference between a crop success and a crop disappointment this year.





# FARMING 101: FARMING BASICS FOR SUCCESS

*Join the Farming 101 class from the comfort of your home! This virtual course is perfect for beginners and will cover essential farming practices to help you grow confidently and succeed! Whether starting a backyard garden or planning a small farm, you'll acquire practical knowledge to get you started. All you need is an internet connection!*

## What will I learn?

- Module 1- Agriculture Resources in Your Community & Farm Business Management
- Module 2- Things to Consider When Getting Started
- Module 3- Enterprises to Consider on Your Farm
- Module 4- Basic Equipment Needs For Your Farm
- Plus, Special Bonus Content!

## Who should join?

- Beginning Farmers
- Urban Gardeners
- Hobby Farmers



**Sign up today using this QR code!**

**For more information, contact the  
Simpson County Extension Office at (270) 586-4484.**

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Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Family and Consumer Sciences  
4-H Youth Development  
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Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.



**Launch Date:  
September 15, 2025**

**Register using the QR  
Code listed here**

**Program Fee: \$35.00**

**Jason Phillips**  
Simpson Co. Extension Agent  
for Horticulture

**UK** **Martin-Gatton**  
College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
University of Kentucky.



# ANTIQUE



## TRACTOR & IMPLEMENT SHOW

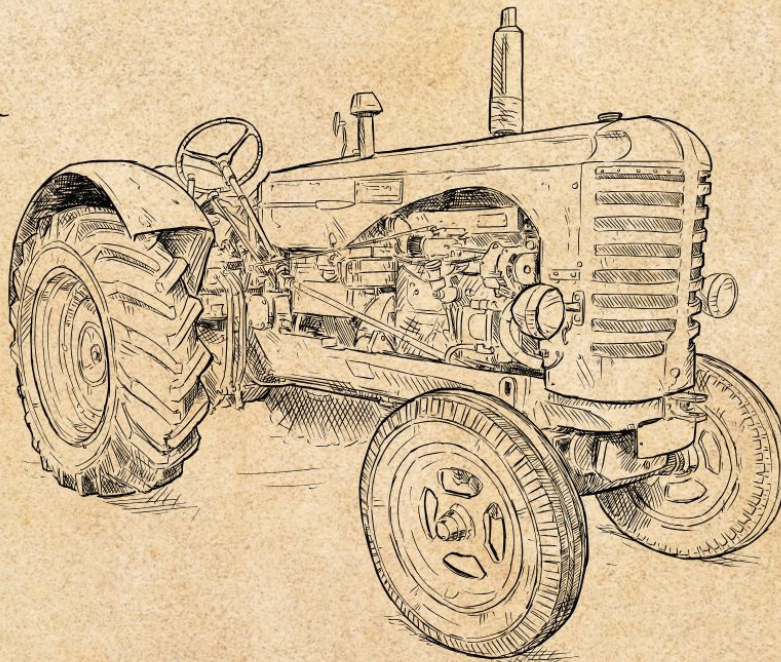
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

JIM ROBERTS COMMUNITY PARK

NO COST TO ENTER OR ATTEND\*

\*FOOD WILL BE  
AVAILABLE FOR  
PURCHASE

Scan the Code to  
Pre-Register



1995 AND OLDER MODELS

SHOWTIME 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

DROP OFF (REGISTRATION) 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM

PARTICIPANTS - ENTER FROM NORTH STREET AT FILTER PLANT ROAD

FOR MORE INFORMATION: CONTACT MYRON THURMAN (270-392-5575) OR BRAD GREGORY (270-253-2615)





# MAMMOTH CAVE HAY CONTEST

## CONTEST DETAILS

### Counties Participating

The Mammoth Cave hay contest is offered to individuals raising hay in Allen, Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Logan, Metcalfe, Monroe, Simpson, and Warren.

### Hay Results

Each producer is limited to one entry per class. An entry consist of a one gallon bag hay sample.\* Judging criteria is based on Forage quality value (FQV)

### Classes

Hay will be judged on the following classes: Grass hay, Legume hay, and Mixed hay.

### Deadline

The deadline to turn in your hay sample to your local extension office is October 30.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL  
EXTENSION OFFICE FOR  
MORE DETIALS



\*A good hay sample consists of 20 core samples from 20 different bales



## Special Announcement

The Simpson Co. Cattlemen's  
Association is offering

**\$50 off**

to the first 5 members to sign up for  
the Master Cattlemen Program!

All sessions will be Mondays, 5:30 -8:30 pm

Meal Provided

Lots of great information for beginner  
cattle producers & seasoned.

Sessions will be held at either  
Logan, Warren, Allen or Simpson  
County.

# 2025 MAMMOTH CAVE MASTER CATTLEMEN

ALLEN  
BUTLER  
EDMONSON  
LOGAN  
SIMPSON  
WARREN

## ATTENTION

- Monday Night Session  
Location **TBD**
- \$100 per person**
- Meal Provided at **Each Session**
- Checks Payable to  
**Warren Co. Soil Test**



**REGISTER NOW**  
(270)586-4484

**10/13 Nutrition**

Katie VanValin

**10/20 Herd Health**

Michelle Arnold

**10/27 Reproduction & Record Keeping**

Les Anderson

**11/3 Genetics**

Darrh Bullock

**11/10 Marketing & Profitability**

Kevin Laurent

**Facilities & Winter Feeding**

Katie VanValin

## Kissing Bugs & Chagas in Kentucky?

### Fast Facts

- KY has a local "kissing bug" called the **eastern bloodsucking conenose** (pictured above)
- This insect is **not good** at transmitting the parasites that cause Chagas disease
- There is **low risk** for contracting Chagas in KY
- For more tips and tricks <https://entomology.ca.uky.edu/ef655>

### Look alikes

Wheel bugs

Western conifer  
seed bugs

Brown marmorated  
stink bugs

Pointy "wheel"  
on their thorax

Flattened legs  
like an oar or  
paddle

Lighter brown  
color than  
conenoses

**BEEF BASH**  
*Save the Date*

**SEPTEMBER 20, 2025**

**9:00 AM - 3:30 PM**

**C. ORAN LITTLE RESEARCH FARM**





# 2025 SOKY

## COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE TRAINING

# NOVEMBER 17, 2025

**\$50** per person

### Logan County Extension Office

255 John Paul Rd Russellville, KY 42276  
270-726-6323 or Your Local Extension Office

Make checks payable to: **MCACAA**

### Commercial CEU's Available

KY CEU's : cat. 1A, 3, 4, 10, 11

TN CEU's : 2 pts (cat. 3, 6)

5 pts (cat. 1)

6 pts (10, 12)

CCA CEU : SW 1, IPM 2, CM 2, PD 1

Not  
confirmed

8:30 - 9:00 am

**Registration & Refreshments**

9:00 - 9:50 am

**Updates in Seed Treatment Technologies**

- Dr. Kiersten Wise

10:00 - 10:50 am

**Pest Control in Aerial Applications**

- Jeremy Sandifer, KSU

11:00 - 11:50 am

**Important Pest Update & Runoff Mitigation**

- Dr. Ric Bessin

11:50 - 12:20 pm

**Lunch**

12:20 - 1:10 pm

**Sprayer Calibration**

- Dr. Ric Bessin

1:10 - 2:00 pm

**Transportation Regulations**

- Officer Michael Smith, KSP

2:00 - 2:50 pm

**Weeds & Pest Management**

- Dr. Kenneth Clayton

2:50 - 3:00 pm

**Evaluations & Wrap Up**

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Community and Economic Development

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### Nine-banded Armadillo Facts

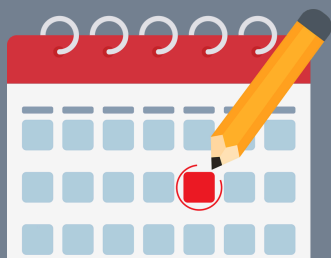
Matthew T. Springer, Associate Extension Professor of Wildlife Management, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Kentucky

- The nine-banded armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*) is one of about 20 species of armadillo in the Americas, and is the only armadillo that occurs in the U.S. The word 'armadillo' is Spanish for 'little armored one', which is an apt description as they are covered with thick protective scales, and has earned the nickname of 'possum on the half-shell'.
- Their range has been expanding in the United States since the 1850s, when the armadillo moved into Texas from Mexico via Rio Grande valley in 1849. Originally, the species was only found in South and Central America.
- The nine-banded armadillo cannot roll into a ball like its three-banded cousin, instead it runs, jumps, or quickly digs into the ground for defense. Armadillos have poor eyesight and hearing, but a keen sense of smell. Head and body length are typically 16 inches, with the tail an additional 12 inches. Weight ranges from 7-9 pounds, making it comparable to the size of an opossum.
- Despite their awkward appearance, armadillos are agile runners and good swimmers, and even have the ability to walk underwater across small streams. A unique trait of the nine-banded armadillo is its ability to jump several feet off the ground when frightened. This may prove effective to avoid a lunging predator but not to an automobile or truck passing overhead.
- Nine-banded armadillos consume a broad omnivorous diet, eating nearly any organic matter they can locate in the leaf litter. Their diet consists of over 500 different items but usually includes earthworms, scorpions, spiders, snails, and small vertebrates. To the benefit of humans, they also consume large amounts of armyworms, cockroaches, ants, wasps, flies, beetles, and grasshoppers. They have been known to dig up entire yellow-jacket nests.
- Females annually bear a litter of four offspring, each of which are genetically identical to one another and of the same sex as they develop from a single egg. Combined with the females' ability to delay implantation of a fertilized egg for up to 14 months after mating, and their rather long lifespan (~20 years), the nine-banded armadillo's reproductive strategy makes it easy for small independent populations to exist.
- The nine-banded armadillo is the only other mammal other than humans that is known to become infected with leprosy (*Mycobacterium leprae*). Overall, the risk of getting leprosy for any adult around the world is very low. More than 95% of all people have natural immunity to the disease; nevertheless, it is not recommended to handle armadillos or disturbed soil with bare skin. Currently, there is research occurring in Kentucky about leprosy presence in our armadillos. It has been found in about 15% of the armadillos that have been sampled. If you had a contact with an armadillo and are worried about getting leprosy, talk to your healthcare provider.
- Armadillos are, to some degree, beneficial because they eat adult insects and larvae. But their feeding behavior also can cause problems for property owners and managers. When burrowing or rooting, armadillos can dig numerous holes in golf courses, lawns, flowerbeds, and gardens. These holes can range 1–3 inches deep and 3–5 inches wide. They can also uproot flowers and other ornamental plants. Armadillo burrows can accelerate and worsen erosion and undermine the foundations of buildings. Burrows in pastures can pose a potential hazard to livestock. If you need help dealing with armadillos please use this publication from University of Missouri Extension as a guide: [Armadillos in Missouri: Techniques to Prevent and Control Damage](#) | MU Extension

Current range of the nine-banded armadillo.







**9/15 Launch Date for Farming 101**  
Online Course for New and Beginning Farmers

**9/20 Beef Bash**

Oran C. Little Farm, Versailles, KY 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. EST

**9/27 Antique Tractor & Implement Show**

Jim Roberts Community Park, 11 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**10/3 4-H Ribeye Sale**

Extension Pavilion, 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**10/13 Master Cattleman begins**

First of 6 Consecutive Monday nights, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

**10/18 BOOfest**

Franklin Town Square, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**10/28 & 30 Kentucky Grazing Conference**

Held in Winchester October 28th and Leitchfield  
October 30th

Call Caroline Roper, KFGC, if you have questions (270)  
704-6618

**10/31 RSVP Deadline for Master Cattleman Program**

**11/13 Simpson County Cattleman's Association**

Location: TBD, 6:00 p.m.

**11/17 SOKY Commercial Pesticide Training**

Logan County Extension Office, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**11/27-28 Simpson County Extension Office closed -**  
Thanksgiving Holiday

**11/26-12/3 National Farm-City Week**

**12/24-1/2 Simpson County Extension Office Closed-**  
Christmas and NewYear Holiday

**1/3-5 2026 Kentucky Fruit & Vegetable Conference**  
Marriott Griffin Gate, Lexington, KY

**OCTOBER 18TH**  
**4:00 PM TO 6:00 PM**

**DOWNTOWN FRANKLIN, KY SQUARE**

**ACTIVITIES STREET**



\_ Pony Rides & Petting Zoo  
\_ Inflatables  
\_ Interactive Ag Games

**ALL  
ACTIVITIES  
ARE**

**FREE**

Thank you to our 2025 Petting Zoo & Pony Ride sponsors!!

31W Bar & Grill - Ruby Branch Farms - Jeffery T Harvey DMD

Jacob and Robin Walton (Walton Farms)

Tina Dunn (Level Up Sweets & Treats)



Activities Street is presented by the Simpson County Agriculture Foundation

## Cook Wild Kentucky: Venison Chili

### Venison Chili

- 1 pound ground venison
- 1 large onion, chopped
- ½ green pepper, chopped
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 (16 ounces) can diced tomatoes
- 2 (16 ounces) cans chili beans, undrained
- 1 (8 ounces) can tomato sauce
- 1 bay leaf
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon cumin
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- Black pepper to taste

In a Dutch oven or large skillet, brown meat, onion, and green pepper in vegetable oil. Add remaining ingredients. Simmer 1 hour on low heat, stirring frequently. Remove bay leaf before serving.

**Alternative to stove-top cooking:** use slow cooker set on high for 4 hours

**Yield:** 10 servings

Adapted from Wild Game: From Field to Table, Sandra Bastin, PhD, RD, Extension Food and Nutrition Specialist. Revised July 2007

### Nutrition Facts

10 servings per container

**Serving size** 1 cup (230g)

**Amount per serving**  
**Calories** **190**

**% Daily Value\***

**Total Fat** 4.5g **6%**

Saturated Fat 1g **5%**

Trans Fat 0g

**Cholesterol** 40mg **13%**

**Sodium** 640mg **28%**

**Total Carbohydrate** 20g **7%**

Dietary Fiber 2g **7%**

Total Sugars 4g

Includes 0g Added Sugars **0%**

**Protein** 16g

Vitamin D 0mcg **0%**

Calcium 67mg **6%**

Iron 3mg **15%**

Potassium 586mg **10%**

\*The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice.



This institution is an equal opportunity provider. This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP.



University of Kentucky  
College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
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