

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES



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

Cooperative Extension Service

Adair County
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June 2017

Backyard Composting Workshop

Thursday – June 22, 2017

5:00 pm

Adair County Extension Office

Join us for a workshop with Dr. Richard Durham, UK Horticulture Specialist to discuss backyard composting. Backyard composting is an extension of processes that have gone on in nature since the origin of life. Without decomposition, the earth would soon be covered with dead animals and plants. With nothing going back into the soil, the soil soon would lack sufficient nutrients for the continuation of life. Natural recycling of these nutrients improves the soil in your yard and makes it more productive while reducing the rate at which landfills reach capacity.

For registration or information on any of the educational programs, call the Adair County Extension Office at 270-384-2317.

Nick Roy
County Extension Agent
For Agriculture & Natural Resources

NOT TOO LATE TO PLANT WARM SEASON ANNUALS

Planting warm season annual grasses like pearl millet, sudangrass, crabgrass, and sorghumsudangrass is a great way to produce quality forage for the summer months. Even though it's already June, there is still plenty of warm weather for these forages to produce excellent hay and baleage yields and to extend the grazing season. Sudangrass and crabgrass can provide high quality hay and grazing. The larger stems of pearl millet and sorghum-sudangrass make them more suited for baleage or grazing. For specific variety information, go to the [UK Forage Website](#) under [Forage Variety Trials](#) and open the 2016 Long Term Summary Report to page 4. For example, the table below shows average performance of sudangrass varieties over the last six years with averages over 9 years. Note that 100 means the variety has average yield and >100 means better than average. Remember that BMR varieties are higher quality, so some reduction in yield is often acceptable. Refer to the "2016 Warm Season Annual Report" for detailed information on variety performance including yield, seedling vigor, and maturity.

– Ray Smith

Variety	Lexington						Mean ³ (#trials)
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
AS9301 BMR ⁴		118					–
Enorma BMR	94	92	91	83	91	98	93(7)
FSG 1000 BMR					101	124	113(2)
Hayking BMR	97	97	96	92	94	90	98(9)
Monarch V	97	93	98	110	99	82	98(9)
Piper	94	104	105	89	94	85	94(9)
ProMax BMR	115	96	103	100	111	111	105(9)
SS130 BMR	103		107	106	110	109	106(6)
TrudanHeadless				118			–

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Agriculture and Natural Resources
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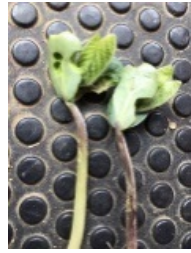
LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
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with prior notification.

Slugs in Soybeans

Chad Lee, Director,
Grain and Forage Center of Excellence,
University of Kentucky



Slugs are lurking in numerous fields in Kentucky. The weather, crop growth stage and soil conditions all have combined to make a perfect all-you-can-eat buffet for the slugs and a nightmare for little soybeans. Here are some very quick and general comments about slugs in soybeans.

Slimy Little Slugs

1. Slugs like cool, cloudy, moist weather. They are more active in the evening and early morning most days. On cool, cloudy days, they are active all day.
2. Slugs do not like warm, sunny weather. Slugs dry out too quickly under the sun. On such days, slugs seek the shade and hide under residue.
3. Cool, cloudy days make for slow crop growth. Warm sunny days with adequate soil moisture make for more rapid crop growth.

The Poor Innocent Young Soybean Plant

Soybeans are most sensitive to yield losses from slugs when the plants begin emergence. As the unifoliates unfold (VC growth stage), and then the first trifoliolate leaf (V1 growth stage) unfolds, the plants become less and less susceptible to stand losses and yield losses from slugs.

If you have emerging soybeans, cool, cloudy weather and heavy residue, this is a slug feeding fest. If the soybean is chewed below the cotyledons, then the plant will die. If the cotyledons are severely eaten, the young plant could die. If the cotyledons only have a couple holes from chewing, the plants are more likely to survive. Any feeding on cotyledons after the soybeans are at VC or V1 or later, then the feeding is harmless to the soybean plant.

Getting Rid of the Slugs

Best options for control:

Warm weather and sunshine. Rapid growth and bright sunshine are the best defense against slugs. Until warm weather and sunshine occurs for a couple days, a farmer may need to try something else.

Slugs do not like any salt. The salt will desiccate the tiny critters in a hurry. Most of our fertilizers are salts. Apply the

fertilizer when slugs are active and more likely to come into direct contact with the salt. The slugs must come into contact with the salt for it to work. If a fertilizer is applied and a half-inch of rain occurs, the salts will be diluted out and will not have any effect on the slugs. So, to make this work, timing is most critical. Options of fertilizers include:

- Dry potash (0-0-60). Apply about 30 to 40 pounds of product per acre (or more). While any salt fertilizer will work, potassium is preferred since any potassium not needed by the crop will remain in the soil for the next crop.
- Liquid UAN (28% or 32% N). Some farmers report using UAN as a carrier in their burndown and do not have slug problems. They are using about 10 to 15 gallons per acre. That rate would burn the leaves on the soybeans. It probably won't kill the soybean plants, but while fighting slugs, we are trying to preserve as much leaf areas as possible. Burning the leaves may not be the best option now. Also, most herbicides that allow UAN to be the carrier, only allow UAN for preplant or preemergence applications. So, if you used UAN, you could not mix most herbicides in the tank.
- Other fertilizers could work if they are applied at similar rates to those fertilizers mentioned above. Most foliar fertilizers contain too little salt to burn plant leaves and too little salt to kill slugs.

Slug baits and slug-icides. There are some products registered for this. I'm not sure they have much better success than the salts.

Beer in tin pans. Apparently, the beer will attract the slugs into the tin pans and the alcohol combined with potassium salt in the beer will kill the slugs. This seems logical. Reports on the success of this are sketchy and lead one to wonder if the beer ever made it to the tin pans... or if this was simply a way to write-off beer as a "business expense".

To Replant or Not to Replant?

Some soybean fields will have reduced stands. Generally, soybean stands will need to be below about 50,000 to 75,000 plants per acre to justify a replanting. Generally, most farmers cannot tolerate soybean stands that low.

Since most farmers are used to planting double crop soybeans and/or river bottom fields into mid-June, they will

likely want to replant even if we think a stand will produce a reasonable yield.

Three scenarios where a replant is almost always justified.

1. If the field is on a major road.
2. If the field is next to your farm shop or your house.
3. If the field is close to a landlord's house.

Take Home

Slugs are a nuisance and take a beautiful field of soybeans ugly.

Warm weather and sunshine are the best control method. Fertilizers salts are an option, but require excellent timing.

Once soybeans get to about VC or V1, the risk damage from slugs is minimal.

PROTECTING POLLINATORS

Honey bees and other pollinators are as much a part of agriculture as cattle and corn. We hear a lot about protecting pollinators, as we should, since losses of honey bees since 2006 have been at unacceptable and unsustainable levels. When it comes to protecting pollinators from pesticides there are a few key risks that need to be managed. While this article deals with protecting pollinators from pesticides, I'll note that pesticides are not the sole cause of pollinator losses and may not be the primary cause of those losses. However, pesticides are under our direct control and we can take steps to minimize their effects on pollinators.

Avoid Contaminating Plants in Bloom

Many insecticide labels prohibit spraying areas in which pollinators are actively foraging. This is subtle language as it does not say do not spray blooming plants. There are times when plants may be in bloom and pollinators are not actively foraging, say for example on cool mornings when the temperature is below 50°F or late in evening when the sun is beginning to go down. It also does not say blooming crops, as pollinators do care if it is a flower on a weed or crop plant. Spraying weeds in flower can be just as hazardous to pollinators as spraying crops in bloom (Figure 1).

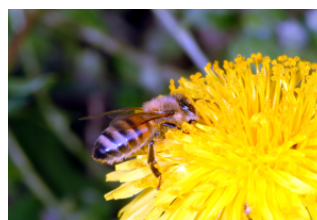


Figure 1. Pesticide contamination of blooming weeds is just as hazardous as that of flowering crops. (Photo: Ric Bessin, UK)

Avoid Pesticide Drift onto Colonies

Where we have had direct evidence of pesticide kills of honey bee colonies, pesticide drift over the colonies is frequently the case. To avoid pesticide drift onto honey bee colonies, the first step is to know where the colonies are around fields that will be treated. Get to know your local beekeepers and where they keep their colonies. Work with them to select locations for colonies where they will be set back from areas that will be treated. Having a vegetation buffer strip of trees will help to prevent drift onto the colonies. Don't spray when the conditions favor drift, especially in the direction of colonies.

Avoid Contaminating Water Sources for Pollinators

Pollinators collect more than just nectar and honey (Figure 2). If you have ever had a teaspoon of honey, you will know that the next thing you need is a drink of water. It is the same with honey bees. Beekeepers will often put out watering stations for honey bees, and just like the colonies themselves, we need to avoid pesticide drift over these areas that would result in contamination. It is best to locate these watering stations in protected areas just like with the colonies.

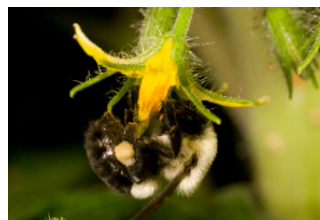


Figure 2. Bumble bees are among our most important wild pollinators. (Photo: Ric Bessin, UK)

Managing pesticides to avoid impacting pollinators is required to stay consistent with pesticide labeling.

~ Ric Bessin, Extension Entomologist



Squash Supreme

- 4 cups** sliced summer squash
1 medium onion, sliced
½ cup diced red bell pepper
1 cup fat free sour cream
1 - 10¾ ounce can reduced fat cream of chicken soup
1½ cups dry corn bread stuffing mix
¼ cup melted margarine

- 1. Preheat** oven to 350° F.
- 2. Steam** the summer squash, onion, and red bell pepper until slightly tender.
- 3. Combine** sour cream and cream of chicken soup. Add steamed vegetables to soup mixture and toss to coat.
- 4. Combine** corn bread stuffing mix and melted margarine.
- 5. Place** half the stuffing mixture in the bottom of a greased 2-quart casserole dish.
- 6. Add** vegetable mixture; **top** with remaining stuffing mix.
- 7. Bake** for 45 minutes or until mixture bubbles.

Yield: 8, ½ cup servings

Nutrition Analysis: 170 calories; 7 g fat; 1.5 g sat fat; 5 mg cholesterol; 370 mg sodium; 22 g carbohydrate; 3 g fiber; 7 g sugar; 4 g protein.

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



Blueberry French Toast Bake

- ¼ cup** whole wheat flour
¼ cup all-purpose flour
1½ cups skim milk
1 tablespoon sugar
½ teaspoon vanilla
¼ teaspoon salt
3 eggs
6 egg whites
1 loaf (12 ounces) French bread, cut into 1 inch cubes
3 ounces fat free cream cheese, cut into ½ inch cubes
1 cup fresh blueberries
½ cup chopped almonds
 Honey, if desired

Generously **grease** a 13x9x2-inch baking dish. **Beat** flours, milk, sugar, vanilla, salt, eggs and egg whites in a large mixing bowl with a hand mixer until smooth. **Stir** in bread cubes until they are coated. **Pour** bread mixture into baking dish. **Top** evenly with cream cheese, blueberries and almonds. **Cover** and **refrigerate** for at least 1 hour, but no longer than 24

hours. **Heat** oven to 400 degrees F. **Uncover** and **bake** 20-25 minutes or until golden brown. **Sprinkle** with honey, if desired.

Yield: 8, 1 cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 420 calories, 6 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 70 mg cholesterol, 860 mg sodium, 69 g carbohydrate, 4 g fiber, 9 g sugar.



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CORN SILAGE & GRAIN CROPS

FIELD DAY

June 22, 2017

10:30 am CT

Mitchell Burton Farm

3010 Cane Valley Road
 Columbia, KY

TOPIC:
**Fungicide Applications
 for Corn to Improve
 Grain Yield and
 Silage Quality**
Dr. Chad Lee
UK Grain Crops Specialist

ADAIR COUNTY FARMER'S MARKET

The Adair County Farmer's Market is now open featuring exclusively Adair County grown fruits and vegetables. The Adair County Farmers Market is located in the parking lot of the County Extension Office at 409 Fairground Street in Columbia.

The Farmer's Market 2017 hours are as follows...

- Tuesdays – 6:00 am to 10:00 am
- Fridays – 6:00 am to 10:00 am



The Adair County Farmers Market proudly accepts senior vouchers. For more information, contact the Extension Office at 270-384-2317.

ADAIR COUNTY FAIR

Livestock Shows

July 6 – 9:00 am CT - **Beef**

July 7 – 9:00 am CT – **Dairy**

All Livestock Shows will be held at the FFA Barn @ Adair County High School.



**BEEF
 COW/CALF
 RECORD BOOK**



The popular Beef Cow/Calf Record Books have been reprinted and are now available at the Extension Office. Stop by for your copy.





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Dairy Farmer Appreciation Picnic

Friday – June 30

6:30 pm CT

Adair County Extension Office
409 Fairground Street in Columbia

All Adair County dairy farmers, their families, and their employees are invited to attend the dairy picnic.

For more information, call the Extension Office at 270-384-2317.



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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



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ADAIR CO. CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION SUMMER BEEF CONFERENCE



Monday – July 10, 2017

5:30 pm CT

Adair County Extension Office

"There's a New Fescue in Town – How to Grow Novel Endophyte Fescue"

- Variety Selection
- Establishment
- No-Till Drill Calibration
- Managing Stands for Persistence

GUEST SPEAKERS include
UK Forage Extension Specialists:
Dr. Jimmy Henning
Dr. Ray Smith
Dr. Chris Teutsch

RSVP: 270-384-2317
Adair County Extension Office
Nick Roy 
Adair County Extension Agent for
Agriculture & Natural Resources

