

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Allen County Agriculture News

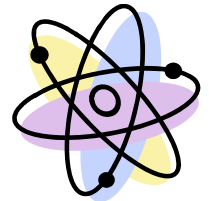
**Cooperative
Extension Service**
Allen County
200 East Main Street
Scottsville KY 42164-0355
(270) 237-3146
Fax: (270) 237-5716
www.ca.uky.edu/ces

“Technology Fair on the Square” in October!



Interested in learning how the latest technology can make your life more interesting? Come join us at the festive downtown Scottsville Square on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays in October for the “Technology Fair on the Square”! Different sessions and topics will provide discussion and ‘hands-on’ learning opportunities for incorporating different pieces of technology—cell phones, digital cameras, internet shopping, computer games, etc. - into your daily life! There’s a topic for everyone at all levels of technology expertise!

A brochure offers a listing of specific topics, times, dates and a registration is available at the Allen County Cooperative Extension Office at 200 East Main Street. Topics will be held at the Allen County Cooperative Extension Service building or in the computer labs of Lindsey-Wilson College or the Allen County Public Library. All of these facilities are located adjacent to or on the downtown Public Square. Although there will be no registration fee, space will be limited at selected sessions with registration required at least one week prior to each session.



Need more information? Give us a call at 270-237-3146! We look forward to seeing you at the “Technology Fair on the Square”!

MEAL: Developing Ag Leadership for Today’s World



Motivating and Educating Agricultural Leadership or MEAL is a new leadership program being developed by the Cooperative Extension Service of Allen, Butler, Monroe and Warren counties. Individuals with an interest in agriculture can participate in this leadership program that will help develop the skills needed for leaders to be effective in providing a voice for agriculture in our communities. MEAL will consist of eight sessions, each lasting two days, scattered over an 18 month period. The program will

include a trip to Frankfort while the legislature is in session to visit with local representatives and state officials. All sessions , which are scheduled to be held at the Warren County Extension Office, will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 3:00 p.m.



A registration fee of \$100 will be used to cover the costs of materials, activities and meals. More information will be released soon.



Allen County Extension Agent
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Allen County Agriculture Development Fund Activity

County Agricultural Improvement Program

The Allen County Conservation District will administer the new County Agricultural Improvement Program or CAIP. The program locally will be funded with \$180,580.00 of Allen County Phase 1 funds. The program is currently undergoing approval in Frankfort at the Governor's Office of Ag Policy and should be available for individuals to make application in the coming weeks. Check your local newspaper and radio for information regarding when producers can apply. The eligible investment areas include:

1. Agriculture Diversification
2. Cattle Genetics Improvement
3. Cattle Handling Facilities
4. Commercial Poultry, Dairy and Swine
5. Farm Livestock Fencing Improvement
6. Farm Structure and Commodity Handling
7. Forage Improvement and Utilization
8. Goat and Sheep Diversification
9. On-Farm Energy Efficiency and Production
10. On-Farm Water Enhancement
11. Technology



For information on CAIP, feel free to contact the Allen County Extension Office at 237-3146, Allen County Conservation District at 237-3189 or to view available funding opportunities, check the web at www.agpolicy.ky.gov/funds/caip.shtml.

Deceased Farm Animal Disposal Assistance Program

In an effort to assist local producer deal with deceased farm animal disposal, the Allen County Conservation District was awarded \$5,226.00 in Allen County Phase 1 funds. These funds are currently undergoing approval on the state level. These funds, in addition to other available funding, will be used to offset the costs of dead animal removal for the county's livestock producers. Details of the program will be released soon.

Kentucky Beef Cattle Market Update

(Kenny Burdine, Livestock Marketing Specialist, University of Kentucky)



The fall calf market slide appears to have begun. Kentucky prices for 5wt steers stayed above \$100 per cwt for most of the summer, but have fallen by about \$5 in early September. This drop is primarily seasonal as slaughter cattle prices remain in the low-mid \$80's. The corn crop continues to look quite large, which

has prevented any major rallies in corn. The feeder cattle market appears to be looking for some direction on beef demand next year. Reports from the west suggest that this should be a solid year for wheat grazing, which will likely help set the undertone for the fall calf market.

Sheep, Goat Referenda Set for October 1

Kentucky sheep and goat producers may vote on check-offs in separate referenda scheduled to be held October 1 in county Extension offices.

The referenda ask whether sheep and goat producers wish to assess themselves at a rate of one-half of one percent (.50%) of the net market price of their animals. If the check-off is approved, the Kentucky Sheep and Wool Producers Association and the Kentucky Goat Producers Association would administer the funds in the areas of promotion, consumer information, produce communication, industry information, and research.



Voting will be open October 1 from 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Persons directly involved in the production of sheep and goats will be eligible to vote in their respective referenda in their county or residence. Producers will be required to provide identification and complete a certification attesting that they are eligible to vote. Corporate producers and eligible producers who reside outside of Kentucky may vote only in the county where their farm is located. Eligible producers may vote by absentee ballot.

If approved, collection of check-off funds would be mandatory, but reimbursement of funds paid would be an option to the producer.

10th Kentucky Grazing Conference

The 10th Kentucky Grazing Conference will be held at the U.K. Research & Education Center in Princeton on October 29. Registration, exhibits and the silent auction will open at 8:00 a.m. central time. The program begins promptly at 8:30. Before lunch the program will include New Developments in Grazing Species and Varieties, Experiences with Gamagrass, Controlling Weeds in Pastures, Tall Fescue Grazing Research, Stored Feed Needs, Extended Grazing and Reduced Stored Feed, and Animal Welfare—Animal Rights: Role of Grazing. After lunch the Kentucky Forage Growers Council Business Meeting and the Forage Spokesman Contest will be held with the events concluding by 3:00 p.m. There is a \$15 registration fee that covers refreshments, meal and a copy of the proceedings.



Value-added Producer Grant Deadlines

USDA Rural Development welcomes projects that highlight innovative uses of agricultural products. This may include using existing agricultural products in non-traditional ways and/or merging agricultural products with technology in creative ways.

Visit <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-21030.htm> to view the revisions of this program from what was originally published in May. Applications for grants must be submitted on paper or electronically according to the following deadlines: Paper applications for both reserved and unreserved funds must be post-marked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than **November 30, 2009**, to be eligible for FY 2009 grant funding. Grants may be used for planning activities and for working capital for marketing value-added agricultural products and for farm-based renewable energy. Eligible applicants are independent producers, farmer and rancher cooperatives, agricultural producer groups, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures.

Late applications are not eligible for FY 2009 grant funding. Electronic applications for both reserved and unreserved funds must be received by November 30, 2009, to be eligible for FY 2009 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2009 grant funding. For more information contact: KENTUCKY RURAL DEVELOPMENT STATE OFFICE, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503-5477, Tel: 859-224-7300, TTY: 859-224-7422, Fax: 859-224-7340.

COOPERATIVE
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*University of Kentucky
Allen County
P.O. Box 355
200 East Main Street
Scottsville KY 42164-0355*

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