

**AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES**

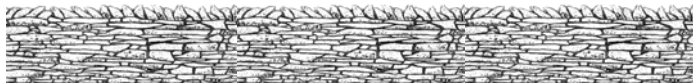
# OF COWS AND PLOWS



**Cooperative Extension Service**

Franklin County  
101 Lakeview Court  
Frankfort, KY 40601-8749  
(502) 695-9035  
Fax: (502) 695-9309  
[www.ca.uky.edu/ces](http://www.ca.uky.edu/ces)  
[ces.ca.uky.edu/Franklin](http://ces.ca.uky.edu/Franklin)

## RURAL HERITAGE SURVEY



Farms and homesteads typically have numerous outbuildings and barns for storage and other specific functions. It seems like we never have enough for everything though. Many have been “re-purposed” from their original uses and modified for modern life and farming. Sadly, many are gone or in disrepair as it is expensive to maintain an outbuilding or barn. Some are abandoned once their original purpose was outdated and they couldn’t be reused for anything else. There is an effort underway to identify and document these old features before they are lost forever though.

Franklin County will be benefiting from a Rural Heritage Survey which is intended to build upon past documentation projects of the Rural



*“This the smoke house or meat house on the Jullian Farm that is still mostly original. Outbuildings for the survey don’t need to be this nice or unique to qualify, simple board and batten or rough saw structures can qualify just as well.”*

(Continued on Page 2)

Heritage Development Initiative (RHDI). This is a partnership between Preservation Kentucky (PKI), the Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC), and the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP). Phase III of this will be an architectural/

## Grazing Network's First Pasture Walk Scheduled

By Karin Pekarchik

LEXINGTON, Ky., (May 19, 2011) The first in a series of four pasture walks hosted by the Eden Shale Grazing Network Initiative will take place June 2 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. EDT at the Eden Shale Research Farm in Owenton. The grazing network, overseen by a committee of forage experts, is designed for participants who have an interest in managing their forages and pastures for improved profitability. The walks provide an opportunity to see how others manage their forages, pastures and livestock while providing a chance to critique and question the operator.

At the June 2 pasture walk, Ray Smith, forage extension specialist in University of Kentucky College of Agriculture’s Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, will review the newest UK variety trials for red clover, alfalfa, tall fescue and orchardgrass. He will address whether improved forage varieties are really worth the added cost; explain how to use the UK Forage Variety Reports to choose the best variety; discuss seeding clovers into tall fescue fields and seeding options for renovating pastures and

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cultural resource rural survey in Franklin County.

The fieldwork portion of the project will focus on the rural resources of Franklin County. Our county still has a significant agricultural tradition characterized by a fertile landscape with numerous intact farming districts. This survey focuses on structures and features from the early settlement period (1780s) to the 1960s.

Survey work in this project will look at both previously documented sites and sites that have not been previously surveyed. Most of the existing surveys concentrate on the houses and do not adequately document outbuildings, fences, and landscape patterns. Previously undocumented sites will include twentieth century farms and farms overlooked because their early houses no longer existed. Expected resources to be identified include: farmhouses, barns, outbuildings, rock fences, field patterns and other landscape features.

If you have structures that you would like considered, then please contact me and let us know. While you may think that they are insignificant or mundane they may actually be unique or one of the few remaining examples we have. What's the drawback to have it photographed and documented? There is none; having it surveyed and listed will not affect your ownership nor what you can do with it. It may even help make it eligible for certain funding opportunities if it meets the criteria. If you'd like to have us look it over, contact me at 695-9035 or [kbishop@uky.edu](mailto:kbishop@uky.edu) and thanks in advance for helping document our slowly eroding agricultural history. ☀



winter feeding areas. Smith also will cover the advantages of using a no-till drill for overseeding and show how to calibrate it to achieve the proper seeding depth and seeding rate.

“Drought conditions during 2007, 2008 and 2010 caused severe thinning of pastures and hayfields in Kentucky,” Smith said. “Overseeding these fields on a regular basis will ensure that you have the most forage production for your livestock.”

In this social learning experience, members of the network are both teachers and students, garnering timely and practical information that can assist in managing forages and pasture-based livestock systems.

“Many of the activities are hands-on: seeing what other members do on their farms and generating ideas that can be implemented on one's own farm. This unique peer support makes the pasture walks really useful,” Smith said.

The Master Grazer Program, funded through the Agricultural Development Fund in partnership with the Kentucky Beef Network, sponsors this grazing-season educational program. University of Kentucky will support the network with a newsletter. Participants should contact their county extension agent for more information or to sign up. There is no fee to attend. The remaining three pasture walks are scheduled for Aug. 4, Sept. 6 and Oct. 6.

Contact: *Ray Smith*, 859-257-3358 ☀



**FRANKLIN  
COUNTY FAIR  
AND HORSE  
SHOW**  
**JULY 18TH - 23RD**  
**LAKEVIEW PARK**

**FRANKFORT KY**

<http://franklincountyfair.info/>

## FCCA Member Meeting



Mark your calendars now and plan to attend Monday evening June 13th at the extension office. David Thomas with Bayer Animal health Division will sponsor and discuss fly control and their new fly tags. Dr. Slone, Henry County Animal Clinic Veterinarian, will be available for an "Ask the Vet" session.

Call the office at 695-9035 to RSVP so we'll have enough food for everyone and get your name on the door prize list.

## Beef Booth at the Fair

The **Franklin County Fair is July 18-23**. The Cattlemen's will once again have their beef booth and sell steak sandwiches, Kentucky burgers and all beef dogs. **All available members should volunteer to help promote beef and raise a little money for your association**, call the Extension Office or contact Ricky Cornish to sign up.

They're looking for grillers and counter workers. Do your part for your organization and your livelihood and volunteer! You'll get to see some of the fair and spend good time with good people.

## KY AG Development Funds

The Franklin Co. Cattlemen's Association was approved by the county council for \$100,000 in cost share funds to provide the County Agricultural Investment Programs or C.A.I.P. locally. Assuming the State Agricultural Development Board approves, then advertising and applications should be available later in July or August. Details at <http://agpolicy.ky.gov/>.

Announcements and applications will be available in our website <http://ces.ca.uky.edu/franklin/>

## Franklin County Fair Beef Show

The Franklin County Fair Beef Show is **Saturday, July 9th**. The Show is sponsored by the Franklin County Cattlemen's Association and starts at 9:00 AM. This will be a great chance to see some really fine examples of beef animals. Come on out and support your association.



*Scott County Beef Improvement Association*

## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual SCBIA Cattleman's Pride Fall-Calving Heifer Sale

**Thursday, June 7, 2012**

Screening at breeding

Must meet C.A.I.P. and Herd Builder Requirements

Hosted by Bluegrass Stockyards, Lexington

**Deadline to own: July 1, 2011**

Contact: Michelle Simon

(502)863-0984

Scott County Extension Office

# Virginia Pepperweed

Several people have brought in Field and Virginia Pepper Weed from their fields for identification lately.

Virginia pepperweed is a winter annual that develops from a slender taproot. Leaves are arranged as a basal rosette, toothed, hairless, and lobed. On mature plants basal leaves are often lacking. Leaves on the stem are arranged alternately. Virginia pepperweed is characterized by its fruiting stem of round, flat seedpods that give the plant a bottlebrush type appearance. ☀



**VIRGINIA PEPPERWEED**  
*Lepidium virginicum*  
Photo courtesy of the University of Arkansas, Department of Agriculture



**COMMON FIELD PEPPERWEED**  
*Lepidium campestre*



## University of Kentucky Eweprofit Schools

**June 14, and October 11, 2011** are the dates for Eweprofit Schools I and II at the University of Kentucky. Although these schools are designed primarily for new and prospective sheep producers, veteran shepherds are welcome so they can sharpen their sheep management skills. Participation in these schools will allow students to come away with a knowledge of flock management for each period during a calendar year (flushing/breeding, early and late gestation, parturition, lactation, and maintenance). Complete management programs for (1) January/February, (2) April, and (3) September/October lambing will be provided.

Each school will be conducted at the University of Kentucky Animal Research Center Sheep Unit, Versailles, Ky. Sessions will begin at 10 a.m. and end at approximately 3 p.m. with a break for lunch (on your own). **There is no registration fee.**

To register, or for more details, contact Dr. Don Ely at 859-257-2717 or email: [dely@uky.edu](mailto:dely@uky.edu).

53rd Annual

# FARM-CITY FIELD DAY



Thursday, July 7, 2011  
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Educational Farm Tours from 9:00-11:00a.m.**

*Tentative Topics*

- Farm Overview and Management
  - Rotational Grazing Sheep
- Feeding Distillery By-products
- Youth Livestock Investment Sale
  - Bourbon Distilling
  - Corn Production

**Rib-eye steak lunch following the Educational Farm Tours!**

**Booths, Displays, Give-a-Ways & Much More**



*Benson Creek Farm Distillery  
And  
High Bridge Hampshires*  
On Crab Orchard Road in Grafenburg, KY



***Tickets available at the Farm Bureau Offices***

Sponsored by Frankfort/Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, Franklin County Conservation District, Franklin County Cooperative Extension, and Farm Bureau Insurance



Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating. Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

# KY Farm Bureau Beef Expo

On March 5th Willis Farms of Frankfort exhibited the Grand Champion bull and female at the 2011 KY Farm Bureau Beef Expo in Louisville. 2011 marks the 3rd consecutive year that Willis Farms has swept the annual



event. WF Power Stroke 28X was named Grand Champion bull and then went on to become the \$10,700.00 high selling lot of the entire event which consisted of 498 sale lots in 12 different breed sales representing 15 states. Power Stroke was purchased by Silver Spur Salers and the

Power Stroke syndicate from Maryville, Mo. Willis Farms also exhibited the Reserve Champion female of the Salers show and had the 3 high selling females of the Salers



*(Below) Franklin & Anderson County Cattlemen grilling at the Derby Celebration for KCA at the Old State Capitol.*

*(Above) FCCA president Patrick Stone with KCA president Greg Robey at the Governor's Derby Celebration to assist Governor Beshear with the May is Beef Month proclamation.*



# Goats and Sheep as a New Enterprise on Your Farm

*Goats and sheep as a new enterprise on your farm*  
Source: Lee Meyer, extension professor, Agricultural Economics

The idea of raising sheep and goats appeals to both beginning and experienced farmers across Kentucky. One advantage of small ruminants is their size. Compared to cattle, small ruminants are good for several reasons. First, you need less land. A typical stocking rate is about one-half acre for each ewe or nanny goat, compared to three to five acres for each cow. Small animals are easier to handle and manage when administering veterinary or basic health care. And the initial investment is much smaller than for cattle.

If you are considering sheep and goats, start your evaluation with a budget. Make or use an enterprise budget, similar to the ones found at <http://www.ca.uky.edu/agecon/index.php?p=29>. The budget starts with an income section. A well run enterprise should produce about two lambs or kids per female per year. To increase the size of the enterprise, you will want to keep female lambs or kids to breed. Holding on to animals rather than selling them will limit your income until the enterprise is the size you want. Prices are strong now, which does increase start-up costs. However, lambs and kids can bring over \$2 per pound.

Of course, cost remains an important consideration. The advantage of goats especially, is that they are foragers—they eat pasture and brush. This makes them a good fit for many parts of Kentucky, where some land is not well suited to row crops. Another consideration is fencing. Fencing may need upgrades, because sheep and especially goats are hard to keep inside fences. Feed and mineral supplements are another cost. The most profitable sheep and goat enterprises depend upon pasture and use only a small amount of feed supplement. The price of purchased feed has gone up dramatically, so this is an important factor.

Marketing the product is another issue to consider. Both lambs and kids can be sold at established auction markets, with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture graded sales being the best. Auction sales take minimal marketing effort on the farmer's part—you just take them to market on sale day. Prices are currently quite good. Another option to increase income further is selling directly to consumers, but this method takes increased effort over auction sales.

Finally, good managers can control potential pitfalls that may cause major headaches for novices. Predators such as coyotes and dogs can wreak havoc on your flock or herd. Having guard dogs is one of the best ways to protect your sheep and goats. Parasites are another issue that requires both management and medication.

For more about production, economics and marketing, visit <http://www.ca.uky.edu/agecon/> or contact the (YOUR COUNTY) Cooperative Extension Service.

Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. ☀



*Drive Your Tractor to  
School Day 2011.*

COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION  
SERVICE



**Cooperative Extension Service**

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53rd Annual

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*Benson Creek Farm Distillery  
And  
High Bridge Hampshires*

On Crab Orchard Road in Grafenburg, KY



*Tickets available at the Farm Bureau Offices*

**Keenan Bishop**

**County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources**

Contact the Franklin County Extension Office at (502) 695-9035 if you would like to receive our newsletter via email  
or email requests to [gil.thurman@uky.edu](mailto:gil.thurman@uky.edu) or [kbishop@uky.edu](mailto:kbishop@uky.edu)

If you **DO NOT** want to receive this newsletter or your address is incorrect, please notify us immediately.