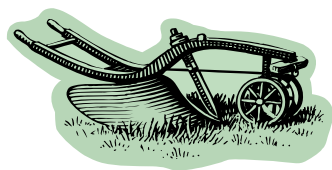


AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

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
ces.ca.uky.edu/Franklin

Farm City Banquet Results

Wet Conditions Create Weed Management Challenges in Corn

[Jim Martin](#) and [J.D. Green](#), Extension Weed Specialists, University of Kentucky, April 27, 2011

The prolonged wet conditions this spring have created additional challenges in regards to weed control. The following are possible scenarios that corn farmers may encounter and factors to consider as we progress through the next several days.



1) Corn Not Planted And Herbicide Was Not Applied: Growers will have flexibility in the choice of burndown options; however, weeds may be larger than typically observed when corn is planted earlier in the spring. Glyphosate may be the best choice for control of larger emerged weeds, but higher rates may be required. Whereas, paraquat may be preferred over glyphosate in cases where rapid burndown control of weedy vegetation is needed for a more favorable environment for corn to emerge. Some disadvantages with paraquat are: a) it may be more expensive, b) usually requires a greater spray volume for best results, and c) is limited in its ability to control large plants relative to glyphosate. The addition of dicamba (eg. Clarity, etc.) or 2,4-D with glyphosate or paraquat may be warranted to aid in control of larger broadleaf weeds. A soil-residual herbicide treatment will extend control during the early part of the season and will limit the need for multiple postemergence

(Continued on Page 2)

One of the largest events that the Frankfort Area Chamber of Commerce hosts is the annual Farm/City Banquet sponsored in part by the kind folks at Whitaker Bank. It is also the longest running of its kind (to our knowledge) at 53 years. Carmen Inman's efforts always payoff in a seamless, well-timed community gathering that allows the business world to visit with their rural neighbors. This is the sister event to Farm City Field Day in July.

Five dollars out of every \$10 ticket goes directly to the Western Hills and Franklin County High School FFA programs. The FFA students volunteer their time to wait the tables for this event and they do a fantastic job. Various organizations and businesses sponsor the tables.

The Pioneer Farmer awards this year went to **Tom Butler** and **Dean Rambo**. They were honored with a plaque as well as an honorary Commissioner of Agriculture certificate. These fine farmers have spent a lifetime of work on the farm here in Franklin County. Both still raise cattle today.

David Thompson was honored as the Outstanding Young Farmer. David is the son of an Outstanding Young Farmer (Randy) and grandson of a Pioneer farmer (Jack). He currently lives and farms in the Peaks Mill Area while working for an excavator on the side. He is raising cattle and hay for himself as well as for his grandmother and also assists family and friends. He is married to Macy.

(Continued on Page 4)

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herbicide treatments. However, warm-season weeds are likely to emerge quickly and grow rapidly as temperatures increase; therefore, growers should monitor fields regularly and be timely with postemergence herbicide treatments when needed for managing weed escapes.

2) Corn Not Planted But Preplant Herbicide Was Applied: A significant portion of soil-residual herbicides applied earlier in the spring have probably dissipated from the soil surface due to the large volume and intensity of rains that occurred since the treatments were sprayed. The need to spray an additional herbicide treatment will depend on specific field situations. If fields are currently weed-free and do not have a history of weed problems, growers may prefer to go ahead and plant the field, and then monitor fields closely and apply additional herbicide treatments as needed in a timely manner. However, if weeds are emerging, then it would be prudent to apply a burndown treatment that also includes a soil-residual herbicide. The maximum cumulative rate of the soil-residual herbicide (i.e. amount initially applied plus what will be applied) can determine the rate and specific herbicide to apply. For example, if the previous amount of atrazine applied was 1.5 lb ai/A, then an additional amount of 1.0 lb ai/A can be applied in order to comply with the maximum total of 2.5 lb ai/A of atrazine allowed per season. When using premixed products, consider the cumulative level of all active ingredients for determining the rate of a specific product. In cases where growers plan to switch from corn to soybeans, they need to consider the risk of soybean injury from corn herbicides applied earlier in the spring. Soil-applied herbicides containing atrazine are a primary concern when switching from corn to soybeans. For additional information on this matter consult Corn & Soybean News April 2007, Vol 7 Issue 5 http://www.uky.edu/Ag/CornSoy/cornsoy7_5.htm#3 ☀

Profitability Analysis of Late Planted Corn Compared to Soybeans

Greg Halich, Department of Agricultural Economics,
University of Kentucky
May 2, 2011

Background:

Although new-crop corn and soybean prices are near record highs, planting conditions remain terrible throughout Kentucky as of early May 2011. It is estimated that only around 5% of the corn crop has been planted. Grain farmers throughout the state are now worrying whether they will get their crops out in a timely manner this year. *An associated question being asked is at what point should they stop planting corn and switch to soybeans?* In order to answer this question, we need to estimate potential yield losses for late planted corn and compare the associated profitability against soybeans.

Assumptions:

New-crop prices used in the analysis are \$6.25/bu for corn and \$13.25/bu for soybeans. Corn prices have increased in value considerably in the last month relative to soybeans. This is likely because the market is trying to compensate for the poor corn planting conditions as is trying to prevent farmers from switching corn acres to soybeans. As a consequence, the profitability of corn is quite high compared to soybeans by historical standards. This will extend the corn planting season further into spring than would normally be expected.

Fertilizer prices are up considerably from last year. However, they have stabilized since early January. Nitrogen (N) price has the biggest impact on relative profitability between corn and soybeans because only corn uses this input. Anhydrous is assumed at \$800/ton or \$.49 per unit of N. DAP and Potash are assumed at \$690/ton (\$.56 per unit) and \$600/ton (\$.50 per unit) respectively. Custom rates are used to estimate machinery costs. Fuel is assumed at \$3.75 per gallon, and trucking is as-



sumed to be 15 one-way miles.

Three soil productivity levels are used in this analysis seen in Table 1. This is important because better quality soils have higher profitability for corn relative to soybeans then poorer ground. Thus we would expect a planting date further out on the best ground before switching to soybeans compared to the worst ground.

Corn Yield	Soybean Yield	Corn/Soybean Yield Ratio
125 bu	39.0 bu	3.2
150 bu	45.5 bu	3.3
175 bu	51.5 bu	3.4

Three corn yield loss levels are evaluated: 10% loss, 15% loss, and 20% loss. Obviously, the further out corn is planted from the optimal date, the greater the expected loss. In most of western Kentucky, May 10 appears to be the point after which yields are expected to start dropping (see Table 2). Two soybean yield losses are also used: 0% loss, and 7.5% loss. The 7.5% loss for soybeans is included because most

Planting Date	Est. Yield Loss
May 1-10	None
May 10-15	5%
May 16-20	10%
May 20-25	15%
May 26-30	20%

Notes: Dates centered around Princeton KY. Subtract approximately 5 days for southwest Purchase Area. Add approximately 5 days for Central KY. Estimates are general expectations based on long-term yield studies by Jim Herbek and Morris Bitzer, University of Kentucky. Results will vary by specific planting season.

would be a yield loss associated with cropping soybeans two years in a row.

of the corn ground that would potentially be planted to soybeans would effectively be 2nd year soybeans. University of Kentucky research shows that in most cases there

Results:

Table 3 shows the profitability of late-planted corn compared to soybeans given the assumptions above.

Base Corn Yield	Gross Return Corn 10% Loss	Gross Return Corn 15% Loss	Gross Return Corn 20% Loss	Gross Return Soybeans 7.5% Loss	Gross Return Soybeans 0% Loss
125 bu	\$293	\$256	\$219	\$253	\$288
150 bu	\$412	\$367	\$322	\$325	\$366
175 bu	\$530	\$478	\$426	\$392	\$439

Note: Subtract land rent to get Net Return.

This table shows the gross return for corn at various yield losses and compares this to soybeans with no yield loss as well as soybeans with a 7.5% yield loss. Notice that at the 10% corn yield loss, all soil classes have higher profitability compared to soybeans at either the 0% or 7.5% yield losses. With a 15% corn yield loss, all soil classes have equal or greater profitability than soybeans with a 7.5% yield loss. *On the best ground, a 20% corn yield loss still has greater profitability than soybeans with a 7.5% yield loss.*

Combining this information in Table 3 with the information in Table 2 gives us an estimate of the latest economic corn planting date before switching to soybeans given market conditions in 2011:

<i>Fair Ground</i>	<i>May 25</i>
<i>Good Ground</i>	<i>May 29</i>
<i>Best Ground</i>	<i>June 2</i>

These dates are most applicable for western Kentucky east of the Purchase Area. Subtract approximately 5 days in the southwest Purchase Area, and add approximately 5 days for central Kentucky. Also, for areas with significantly higher trucking and N costs then the assumptions used here, subtract 1-4 days to account for improved soybean profitability relative to corn profitability.

(Continued from Page 4)

(Profitability Analysis of Late...Continued from Page 3)

Other Important Factors to Consider:

If planting conditions in the heart of the Corn Belt do not improve quickly, it is likely that the market will respond by further increasing the price of corn relative to soybeans. *Should this occur, the dates shown above will move out further into the planting season, and it would be likely that even on the fair ground, corn would still be more profitable than soybeans into early June.*

The other important factor that needs to be considered is Preventative Planting with crop insurance. The Preventative Planting date for corn in Kentucky is May 31. If producers are unable to get corn planted by this date (for legitimate reasons), they can choose not to plant and still get 60% of their crop insurance base guarantee. However, corn can still be planted up to June 25 for "late planting" crop insurance purposes. Given current corn profitability, and the increase in corn prices from the March insurance price guarantee, planting beyond the May 31 date will likely be an attractive option this year. *Producers need to talk with their crop insurance agent to assess their specific situation and options for this year.*

See Custom Machinery Rates Applicable to Kentucky (2011) <http://www.ca.uky.edu/cmspubsclass/files/ghalich/CustomMachineryRatesKentucky2011.pdf>

Plantings after May 31 lose 1% of the base guarantee for each day planted beyond this date. ☀

(Farm City Banquet...Continued from Page 1)

The Master Conservationist award by the KY Division of Conservation was awarded this year to **Jane Jullian**. (photo on page 9) This award is given in recognition for outstanding conservation practices over their lifetime of farming.

This year we tried something new, we ran a slide show of the award winner's farms & operations – both current and old photos. Judging from the response, this was a big hit. We hope to expand it next year. ☀

LOW SOIL PH REDUCES FERTILIZER EFFICIENCY

Failure to maintain soil pH at proper levels decreases fertilizer efficiency resulting in lower yields and wasted money. Uptake of the major soil nutrients – nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium – is optimized at a soil pH range of 6.3 to 7.0. When the soil pH drops below this range, N, P & K uptake efficiency is reduced. According to UGA Extension Forage Agronomist Dennis Hancock, nutrient uptake efficiency on soil with a pH of 5.6 is reduced 35% for N, 50% for P and 10% for K when compared to uptake at a soil pH of 6.2. For hayland, this can result in lost fertilizer value totaling \$60 or more per acre annually (see table).

In most areas of the country, the prorated annual cost of aglime needed to raise a pH of 5.6 to 6.2 would approximate \$15/acre or less. Keeping in mind potential yield loss, wasted value of fertilizer applied and the positive economics of applying lime, one can easily see the significant benefits of maintaining proper soil pH in pastures and hay fields.

(SOURCE: Pennington Forage News, Spring 2011 Newsletter) ☀

Tobacco Diseases

To date, there are no known reports of blue mold on tobacco in the U.S. Movement from potential sources outside the country is unlikely, according to the [most recent report from the North American Plant Disease Forecast Center](#). We have received a handful of reports on Rhizoctonia damping-off showing up in float beds around Kentucky, otherwise things seem to be quiet for now on the disease front. I would expect things to get a little more active in the next week or two, particularly with target spot and also Pythium root rot. Articles on managing these diseases can be found at the [Kentucky Pest News web site](#) (Issue Nos. 1262 and 1263). Please let me know if you have questions.

Kenneth W. Seebold, Jr., Associate Extension Professor, Tobacco and Commercial Vegetables University of Kentucky, Dept. of Plant Pathology ☀

Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund Forums Announced- *Agricultural Development Board Accepts Governor's Challenge*

FRANKFORT, Ky. (April 19, 2011) – Governor Steve Beshear's Office of Agricultural Policy today announced a series of forums to gain input in the future use of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund (KADF) to continue strengthening Kentucky's agricultural economy. The forum series is just one part of the response to the challenge Gov. Beshear issued at the 2011 GOAP Conference earlier this year.

"I want everyone to take a fresh look at the Agricultural Development Fund and determine how to utilize the available resources to spark new and innovative ideas, encourage competition and pursue genuine opportunities that will lead to greater profitability for our farmers," said Gov. Beshear. "We need to consider ways that the Agricultural Development Fund can be used to entice proposals that create or expand markets for farmers, build on core agricultural assets in the various regions of the state or foster agricultural entrepreneurship and agribusiness development."

The KADF Forums will be held in eight locations across the Commonwealth. The series will kick off at **7 p.m. on Thursday, May 19 at the Kentucky History Center in Frankfort**. These regional venues will provide a way to offer new and innovative ideas and share KADF successes in each region. Broad topics for each of the forums include: regional challenges and solutions, leveraging resources, county collaboration, area trends and continued KADF support. Audience participation is what will make these events successful, with all concepts and comments being compiled into a report. ☀️



Marksbury Farm Market— Butchers Shop, Farm Market and Processing Facility Tour

Commercial, Vegetable & Livestock Producers!
(meaning anyone who is in production of any kind
of food for sale in any way)...

Kim and I have scheduled a tour of Marksbury Farm Market and Processing facility in Lancaster, Ky. The date is Friday, June 3rd from 10:00—2:00. We plan on stopping somewhere for lunch and travel arrangements will depend on how many people go. We will be considering a van or car pooling. The cost will be very minimal, if any, other than your meal and purchases at their retail shop.

Here are links if you don't know about Marksbury Farm Market yet or would like to know more:

<http://marksburyfarm.com/>

http://marksburyfarm.com/?page_id=26

We would like to invite anyone who is in food production, including meats, produce, eggs, honey, home based processing, Farmers Market, on-farm sales, etc. This will be a general tour of what they have to offer to producers and how they market to the public. We will be touring coolers, processing rooms, kitchen, smokehouse, retail store, etc.

If you are interested in this tour of Marksbury, please call or email Gil or Debbie at the Extension Office and sign up! If you have questions about the tour, let Kim or I know. ☀️



PRODUCE AUCTION WEDNESDAY'S & FRIDAY'S

May

4th, 6th, 11th, 13th, 18th, 20th, 25th & 27th

Auction at 11:00a.m.

BUY OR SELL!

- Capstone Produce Market is located in Campbellsburg, Kentucky at the intersection of 421N and 55N (the old Southern States Co-op building)
- Come hungry and check out our Homeplace Café
- Follow us on Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Campbellsburg-KY/Capstone-Produce-Market/109075445811949>
- Follow us on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/#!/capstoneproduce>
- Check out our videos on YouTube by looking up Capstone Produce Mkt.
- For a complete listing of auction dates – check out our website where you can print an auction schedule


GroLocal

David Neville, Auctioneer

(502)330-3027

david@capstoneproducemarket.com

info@capstoneproducemarket.com

www.capstoneproducemarket.com



Revised 4/25/11

University of Kentucky Equine Initiative presents:



Equine Farm & Facilities Expo

Selecting the right equipment for the job

Tuesday, **June 7, 2011**

3:30 to 8 p.m. MEAL PROVIDED

Highlighting a display of equine equipment and supplies from Central Bluegrass companies,
4 - 8 p.m.

Featuring— demonstrations on the practical use of equipment suited for farms of all sizes, **6 - 8 p.m.**

- Facility design, Dr. Robert Coleman, equine extension specialist joined by guest speaker Gus Koch, Shawhan Place
- How to successfully establish and oversee horse pastures, Dr. Ray Smith, forage extension specialist
- Weed control basics: what weeds need to be controlled, Dr. Bill Witt, weed scientist
- Rethinking parasite control: strategic deworming, Dr. Mary Rossano, assistant professor and equine parasitologist



Location—


Shawhan Place
A Continuing Tradition
205 Larue Road, Paris, Kentucky

Shawhan Place is a premier Thoroughbred farm offering foaling, breeding, sales prep and consignment, breaking, lay-ups, and pre-training services. Owned and operated by Theodore Kuster, Charles Koch, and Matthew Koch.

DIRECTIONS FROM LEXINGTON:

- Take U.S. 27/68 East to Paris
- Turn left at Bourbon County High School onto U.S. 27 North/U.S. 68 East
- Go 2 miles and turn left onto U.S. 27 North
- Go 3.8 miles, turn right onto Peacock Rd.
- Go 1 mile and turn left onto Larue Rd.
- Go 0.3 miles to Shawhan Place on the left
- Follow the field day signs

CONTACT Your county Extension agent or Dr. Ray Smith, Expo chair (859) 257-3358 or raysmith1@uky.edu

RSVP appreciated
to Fayette County Extension Office
(859) 257-5582 or
dL_CES_fayette@uky.edu

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



USDA Resources for Those Affected by the Birds Point-New Madrid Floodway in Southern Missouri

May 4, 2011

Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency

Crop losses

Those producers who purchased crop insurance and whose crops have been damaged by excess moisture causing flooding will be covered by their crop insurance policies. Producers who farm in the floodway and purchased crop insurance will be eligible for crop insurance indemnities in accordance with the provisions of their crop insurance policy. Those producers who are unable to plant, but have purchased crop insurance, will be eligible for prevented planting payments in accordance with the provisions of their policy. Producers should contact their crop insurance agent as soon as possible to report any losses or prevented planting.

These same producers will also be eligible for disaster assistance through the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program. In order to be eligible for SURE, a producer is required to have obtained a crop insurance policy or Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) coverage, unless they are a socially disadvantaged, limited resource or beginning farmer or rancher. .

Assistance to repair cropland

USDA can also help restore damaged and flooded land. The Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) provides emergency funding and technical assistance for farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters. Subject to the availability of funding, and certain other conditions, ECP can be used to assist with debris removal and repairing damaged farmland due to the breach of the levy.

Other assistance

FSA provides emergency loans through the Emergency Loan Program (EM) to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to natural disasters. Producers in these counties will be eligible for these loans as soon as the county is declared a Presidential or Secretarial disaster county. Emergency loan funds may be used to: restore or replace essential property; pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year; pay essential family living expenses; reorganize the farming operation; and refinance certain debts.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

NRCS administers the Emergency Watershed Protection program, through which we help local communities recover from natural disasters. All projects undertaken must be sponsored by a political subdivision of the State, such as a city, county, general improvement district, or conservation district.

NRCS may bear up to 75 percent of the construction cost of emergency meas-

ures or up to 90 percent in limited resource areas. The remaining cost-share must come from local sources and can be in the form of cash or in-kind services. Requests must be made by local communities to NRCS state staff.

Rural Development

For rural communities, Rural Development has fairly broad discretion at all times to work with existing borrowers to negotiate “workout agreements” in the event repayment of a loan for a water, wastewater, or essential community facilities project has been threatened, including for reasons related to natural disasters.

Individuals are encouraged to contact FEMA for their immediate needs. Rural Development provides FEMA with regular information as to vacant units in multi-family housing complexes financed by the agency, and following a Presidential disaster declaration, FEMA can assist with placement and vouchers to cover short-term rental costs. Housing and business assistance programs are available over the longer term to help finance repair and replacement of homes and businesses.

Food and Nutrition Service

USDA’s nutrition programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, the Summer Food Service Program, and The Emergency Food Assistance Program offer food assistance to families in times of need.

For additional information, please visit www.usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202-720-6382 (TDD).



Jane Julian received Master Conservationist award this year at the Farm City Banquet.



The Julian Farm on Old Louisville Road in Frankfort.



Keep an eye out for Pythium in tobacco. Root will be brown and slimy.

(R) Cool nights and cloudy days are causing yellowing, stunting and irregular grown this spring.





Cooperative Extension Service

University of Kentucky
Franklin County
101 Lakeview Court
Frankfort KY 40602-8749



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Kentucky FSA Reminds Producers of FSA Program Deadlines

Lexington KY, May 3, 2011– John W. McCauley, State Executive Director of USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Kentucky reminds producers of the following program deadlines.

- **January 2** – Final date to report acreage for NAP specialty crops (honey, maple sap).
- **May 27** – Deadline for project area proposals for the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP).
- **May 31** – Final date to request a marketing assistance loan or loan deficiency payment for 2010-crop cotton, feed grains, soybeans, and minor oilseeds.
- **May 31** – Final date to report small grain acreages.
- **June 1** – Final date to enroll in the 2011 Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program and the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP).
- **July 15** – Final date to report acreage on all other crops and land uses, except small grains, including CRP acreage. Production reporting deadline for NAP crops for previous year’s production except small grains.
**Exception: Crops insured through NAP must report the earlier of: 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing, or July 15.*
- **July 29** – Final date to apply for 2009 Supplement Revenue Assistance Program (SURE).
- ***September 1** – Final day to apply for coverage under NAP for Christmas Trees, Crustaceans, Finfish, Flowers, Ginseng, Grass-sod.
- ***September 30** – Final day to report acreage for 2011 Value Added Crops (Sod Grass, Crustaceans, Christmas Trees, Finfish, Ornamental Nursery, Floriculture).

Producers with livestock deaths caused by adverse weather or normal mortality must file a Notice of Loss within 30 days of when loss is apparent, but no later than October 30, 2011. However, application for payment can be made up to January 30, 2012. Proper documentation must be provided. On-going programs include Direct and Guaranteed Farm Operating and Farm Ownership Loans, Rural Youth Loans, Farm Storage Facility Loans, Milk Income Loss Contract Program, and Continuous Conservation Reserve Program.

***Only producers with a NAP policy are required to report by these deadlines.**

For information contact the FSA county office at the local USDA Service Center or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

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 or kbishop@uky.edu

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