



Of Cows & Plows

August 2010

Phase I Cost Share

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Available August 16th

(<http://agpolicy.ky.gov/funds/caip.shtml>)

The Franklin County Cattlemen's Association (FCCA) was granted \$150,000.00 to administer the C.A.I.P. cost share locally.

Starting **August 16th**, applications will be available at the Extension Office between the normal operating hours of 8:00-4:30 Monday through Friday or on line at <http://ces.ca.uky.edu/franklin/AgNaturalResources>

All applications must be turned into the Extension Office and time stamped by **NOON SEPTEMBER 1, 2010.**

As in 2009, the following categories are eligible for cost share. Visit their web site at <http://agpolicy.ky.gov/funds/caip.shtml> to find out what each category or program area actually covers (ex: bees fall under Ag Diversification, etc):

- [Agricultural Diversification](#)
- [Cattle Genetics Improvement](#)
- [Cattle Handling Facilities](#)
- [Commercial Poultry, Dairy, & Swine](#)
- [Farm Fencing Improvement](#)

- [Farm Structure & Commodity Handling](#)
- [Farmland Improvement & Utilization](#)
- [Goat & Sheep Diversification](#)
- [On-farm Energy Efficiency & Production](#)
- [On-farm Water Enhancement](#)
- [Technology](#)

There are changes from 2009 rules and guidelines as well. The following are some highlights of the changes:

Fertilizer, pesticide, and soil amendments are no longer eligible cost-share items. All transport equipment (trailers & wagons) are no longer eligible cost-share items.

Bird netting/Predator control fencing (exclude plank fence) for protection of crops are included. Equine exerciser equipment (excluding motorized vehicles) now eligible for cost share. Also added is on-farm direct-to-consumer sales cost-share items - construction of new permanent structures or conversion of existing structures to be used for retail sale of product (Meeting rooms, exposition centers, educational facilities and construction or improvements to buildings serving primarily as residences are not eligible cost-share items). Add refrigerated equipment for storing product (non-motorized). Add display equipment, including refrigerated equipment, to assist in selling of product.

A Universal Producer Application from an individual without a Social Security Number (SSN) and Farm Serial Number (FSN) will be considered incomplete. Tenant farmers or those leasing land where capital

construction improvements will be located should supply a copy of their Schedule F as well as a letter from the land owner giving permission to use owner's FSN and agreeing to allow the tenant access to the cost-share items for a minimum of five years.

A producer is defined by use of Social Security Number (SSN) and Farm Serial Number (FSN). Both shall be provided when applying. Once the Social Security Number (SSN) or Farm Serial Number (FSN) is used, neither are eligible to be used again once annual limit is reached.

The program shall be open to all county producers and shall not be tied to participation in any organization. Each producer who receives \$600 or more shall be supplied an IRS form 1099 or equivalent tax accounting documentation.

The retroactive date shall not be more than 12 months prior to the execution of the Legal Agreement for this program (about the middle of July). Beginning January 2011, producers can not submit receipts that are dated prior to execution of the Legal Agreement!

The Cattlemen's board just finished conducting random site visits for 2008 cost share and rules require them to conduct random site visits for 2009 and 2010 as well.

To learn about all the revisions, visit [http://agpolicy.ky.gov/funds/documents/2009 CAIP_Guideline_Revisions_Summary.pdf](http://agpolicy.ky.gov/funds/documents/2009_CAIP_Guideline_Revisions_Summary.pdf).

To find out about all the guidelines, go to http://agpolicy.ky.gov/funds/documents/guidelines_standard_all.pdf.

To apply, visit our office or website.



Field day 2010 at the Maurice Cook Farm in Bald Knob

FRANKLIN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT COST SHARE

The Franklin County Conservation District is offering 50% cost share for a combined total of \$500 per farmer per year for any combination of the local cost share programs. Sign up period is **August 2nd through the 13th** at their office.

To participate in these programs you must apply at 103 Lakeview Court. You are required to meet the specific requirements of each program, provide receipts and present it to the district before they will be funded. For specific questions contact Eric Phillips at 695-5203 X 3 or visit <http://www.franklincountyconservationdistrict.com/costshareinformation.htm>.

Pasture Renovation Program - soil test required. Cost share 50% for seed to improve pastures. All receipts must be turned in before payment.

Lime Program - a soil test required. Cost share 50% for lime to improve pasture ph levels. All receipts must be turned in before payment.

Weed Control Program - 50% cost share for pasture chemicals. All receipts must be turned in before payment will be made (They have a pasture sprayer to help with this program).

Forage Management Program - cost share 50% for hay wrap, net wrap, or silage bags. All receipts must be turned in before payment will be made.

The Rock Gateway Program is managed a little differently. The district will supply each approved farmer with 40 feet of filter fabric and one load of rock. This program is designed to improve gateway entrances into fields which farmers would normally have trouble accessing.

Also state cost share signups will be the month of September (1st-30th) with applications being processed and submitted to the Division of Conservation by October 29th and approval is expected for applications during late November.

"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." Unknown

FORAGE SEEDING RATE CALCULATOR

Dr. Dan Undersander and colleagues at the University of Wisconsin have developed a Seeding Rate Calculator that is applicable to our conditions here in Kentucky. We have it listed on our Forage Website www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage under the Forage Decision Aids link. That link will take you to the Wisconsin Forage Research and Extension Website. Once there, click on Pasture and Hay Seeding Rate Calculator listed under Current Issues for Wisconsin Farmers. (UK Forage News, July 2008)



Cattlemen's members on their 2010 Educational Tour through Colorado and Wyoming, seen here outside Estes Park in northern Colorado.

GETTING THROUGH THE SUMMER SLUMP

The second 2010 Kentucky Grazing School will be held August 9-10 at the Woodford County Extension Office and UK Animal Research Center in Versailles. The grazing school focus will be on extending the grazing season, the value of shade and water, and summer grazing options. Participants will also work together in designing and building temporary pastures and watering systems, calculating pasture production, and determining stocking rates. Participants will learn how to design a rotational grazing system for their farm, and receive classroom instruction on all aspects of forage and

livestock production related to grazing systems. Go to our UK Forage Website for more information and a registration form (www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage), or contact Adam Probst if you have any questions adam.probst@uky.edu or 859-257-0597. (SOURCE: Adam Probst, UK Master Grazer Program)



Brandon Snell showing at the 2010 Franklin Co. Fair Beef Show

Fall Seeding Time

Species	Rate lb/acre (pure stand)	Rate lb/acre (mixtures)	Optimum date
Tall fescue	15-25	10-15	8/15-9/15
Orchardgrass	15-20	5-10	8/15-9/15
Alfalfa	15-20	15	4/1-5/1, 8/15-9/1
Red Clover	10-12	6-8	3/15-4/15, Feb. for frost seeding
White Clover	---	1-2	Same as red clover

For a copy of all species ask for AGR-18



Finding shade where ever you can for Field Day 2010

SELECTING SUMMER ANNUAL FORAGE GRASSES

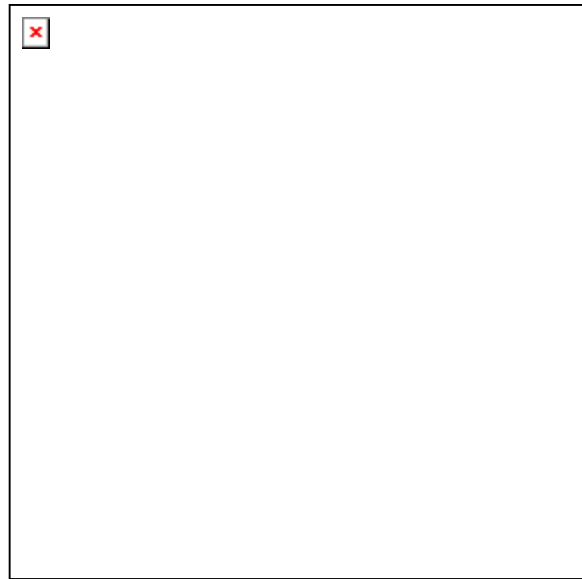
Are you planning to plant a summer annual grass, maybe to boost cattle numbers or to build hay supply? Which one will you plant? It can be confusing because there are six different types of major summer annual forage grasses — sudangrass, sorghum-sudan hybrids, forage sorghum (which we often call cane or sorgo), foxtail millet, pearl millet, and teff. Each one has its own strengths and weaknesses. So base your choice primarily on how you plan to use it.

For example, do you want pasture? Then use sudangrass or pearl millet. Both are leafy, they regrow rapidly, and they contain less danger from prussic acid poisoning than other annual grasses.

What if you want hay or green chop? Then select sorghum-sudan hybrids or pearl millet because they yield well and they have good feed value when cut two or three times. On sandy soils, though, foxtail millet may be a better choice for summer hay. It dries fast, doesn't regrow after cutting, and handles dry soils well. Cane hay is grown in many areas and produces high tonnage, but it's lower in feed value and dries more slowly after cutting than the hybrids or millets. Or you could choose teff for a really soft, leafy, high quality horse hay.

Maybe you plan to chop silage. Then choose the forage sorghums, especially hybrids with high grain production. They can't be beat for tonnage or for feed value.

(SOURCE: Bruce Anderson, University of Nebraska)



This bale was struck by lightning here in Franklin Co. but a similar result can happen if baled with too high a moisture content.

HEAT DAMAGE TO MOIST HAY

Did you bale some first cutting hay a little tough due to high humidity and frequent rain showers? If so, your hay could mold, spoil, or suffer heat damage. Let's deal with this problem in a moment.

Excessive heat can cause hay to be less digestible, especially the protein. Heat damaged hay often turns a brownish color and has a sweet caramel odor. Cattle often eat this hay readily, but because of the heat damage, its nutritional value might be low. Heat produced by a bale basically comes from two sources. Some heat is produced by biochemical reactions from the plants themselves as hay cures. This heating is relatively minor and rarely causes hay temperature to rise above 110 degrees. Very little damage occurs to hay that gets no warmer than 110 degrees.

Most heat in hay, though, is caused by the metabolic activity of microorganisms. Millions of these microbes exist in all hay and they thrive when extra moisture is abundant.

As the metabolic activity of these microbes increases, the temperature of your hay rises. Hay with only a little excess moisture probably will get no warmer than 120 degrees. Wetter hay, though, quickly can get as warm as 150 degrees. Hay that gets this warm nearly always becomes

discolored, and nutritional value can be very low. If hay temperatures rise above 170 degrees, chemical reactions can begin to occur that produce enough heat to quickly raise temperatures over 400 degrees and cause fires.

We all bale hay a little too wet from time to time. Be wary of the fire danger with wet hay and store it away from buildings and other hay just in case. Also, remember the lower feed value that is caused by heat damage in wet hay. Get a thorough forage test and then use this hay accordingly. (SOURCE: Bruce Anderson, University of Nebraska)

FREE! FREE! FREE!
**Soil Samples in the month of
October!**

Bulletin Board

Since the NRCS office moved, there's been the need for a bulletin board for buying, selling, services, looking or trading things agricultural. We've recreated that board here in the hall by the publication rack.

Stop by to leave a card with the info or scan for what you need after it's up & going.

Buy - Sell - Trade



Dr. Steve LeValley, CSU Sheep Specialist, visits with Roger Perkins and Roger Sparrow as Todd Akers looks over the sheep in the Harper Livestock feedlot outside Greely Co.

TOBACCO

Hollow Stalk Outbreaks Linked to Warm and Rainy Weather

By Kenny Seebold

As we head into topping time, problems with bacterial stalk rots begin to crop up. This is particularly pronounced when warm temperatures and rainfall coincide with topping operations. These types of environmental conditions favor a bacterium called *Erwinia carotovora* subsp. *carotovora* (Ecc). This pathogen, an inhabitant of soils and also common on plant surfaces, causes three diseases: blackleg in transplants, hollow stalk in the stems, and bacterial soft rot/drop of leaves. All three diseases occur in the form of a slimy, foul-smelling rot that develops rapidly under ideal (warm and wet) conditions. Houseburn of tobacco can also be caused by Ecc, particularly if the pathogen is active on harvested tobacco.

Hollow stalk in the field occurs normally between topping and cutting. The bulk of infections occur during or after wounding which results from topping; however, other types of injury (hail, disease, sucker control) can also promote hollow stalk. The stalk-rot bacterium enters wounds and begins to rot the pith, and will spread down the stalk very quickly. Leaves typically wilt and droop, beginning at the top of the plant. Most leaves on infected plants drop off before or during cutting. Blackened areas are usually visible on the stalk.

Bacterial soft rot occurs on leaves at any stalk position, but is very likely to appear on lower leaves. Symptomatic leaves normally drop before Ecc can invade the stalk. However, under ideal conditions, Ecc will move into the stem before leaves drop, producing cankers and hollow pith in the lower parts of the plant.

Bacterial soft rots are hard to control, and no "rescue" treatments are available. Over-fertilized plants are particularly susceptible to bacterial soft rots, as are wounded plants (as mentioned previously). Take all precautions to manage fertility properly and minimize wounding. Top tobacco in a timely manner and control sucker growth promptly. Large suckers killed by sucker

control chemicals are ideal targets for Ecc. Topping when large flower heads are present normally creates a wound that can hold water, promoting infection. Remove older tops with a knife, making an angled cut that slopes downward and towards the sunny side of the plant to promote drying. Avoid topping when weather is rainy or damp and cloudy, or in the morning when plants are wet. Workers who rub soil on their hands to remove tobacco resin are likely to spread Ecc, especially if working plants when they are wet. Avoid topping obviously infected plants to avoid spread to healthy plants. Sucker control influences the development of hollow stalk. Contact chemicals tend to increase hollow stalk in wet seasons, and bacterial soft rot of leaves has been observed on crops damaged by excessive MH-30.

Blue Mold Update

Add another state to the blue mold list. This past Friday (July 23), the disease was confirmed in southwestern Virginia by Danny Peek of Virginia Tech. The case occurred in Washington County, near Glade Spring, and the inoculum that sparked the outbreak also may have affected tobacco in northeastern Tennessee, according to Dr. Paul Denton of the University of Tennessee. With the disease making its way westward from the Carolinas, its now in a location that could be a source of inoculum for eastern KY and OH. Farmers that have topped tobacco (or are about to do this) shouldn't be overly concerned, but crops that are more than a week or more away from topping should be scouted regularly. If weather events favor transport of blue mold spores into eastern KY and southeastern OH, a preventive fungicide application would be warranted. As soon as we get a better picture of whats happening in TN and VA, and the potential spore movement from the known VA source, I will post an update on the KY Tobacco Disease Information Page

(<http://www.uky.edu/Ag/kpn/kyblue/kyblue.htm>).

In the meantime, we should go into "watch mode", and be prepared to act if we find blue mold in our areas. Please be on the lookout and let me know if you find or suspect blue mold.

For recommendations on the control of tobacco diseases, please consult past issues of the Kentucky Pest News, or the Kentucky-Tennessee Tobacco Production Guide (ID-160),

available at <http://www.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/id/id160/id160.pdf>.



FCHS FFA Alumni busy cooking for the throngs at the Franklin Co Beef Show

FREE! FREE! FREE!
Soil Samples in the month of October!

Manage Your Alfalfa

Plan your last alfalfa cutting or grazing so it best benefits the plant, normally this is around September 15th or so. This will allow for a healthier more resilient stand that will persist for many years. Plan your last cutting so the stand has about one month of growth prior to a killing frost (24 *F or Nov 1 whichever comes first) to recover and replenish its root reserves for the winter. By grazing or otherwise removing the plant residue after freeze down you can help eliminate over-wintering sites for disease and insects.



2010 Clover Bud Camp Buddies!



Keenan Bishop

Keenan Bishop
County Extension Agent for Agriculture and
Natural Resources

