

Agriculture and Natural Resources Newsletter

Greetings All,

Spring is finally here! We have several excellent opportunities for learning planned!

Don't forget to follow Boyd County Agriculture on Facebook. Following us on social media keeps you *"in the know"* for upcoming events as well as timely topics and useful information.

Thank you to everyone that attended our Ag Appreciation Dinner. It was a wonderful evening and I appreciate the planning committee for coordinating this event.

Please enjoy your newsletter!

Muebert Hall

Meredith Hall Boyd County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources

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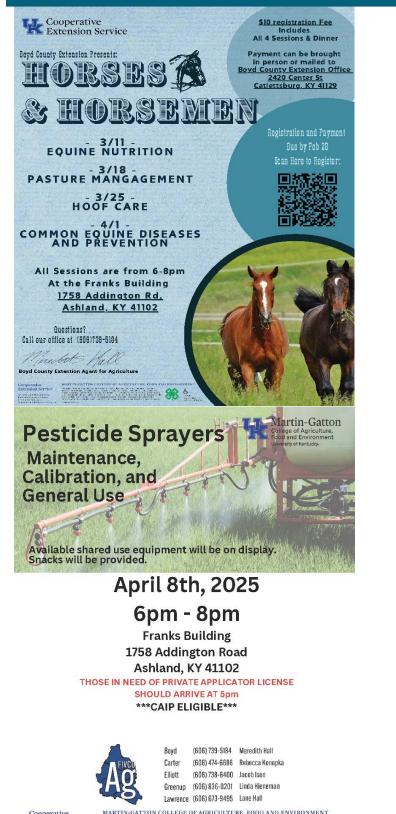
Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources Family and Consumer Sciences 4-H Youth Development Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Upcoming Events

*Denotes preregistration is required

Horses & Horsemen Program April 1 @ 6:00 PM Boyd County, Franks Building.

Pesticide Sprayers

April 8 @ 5:30PM Boyd County, Expo Building.

AG Development Meeting

April 10 @ 6:00 PM Boyd County, Expo Building * RSVP required, call the office 606-739-5184

4-H/FFA Lamb Showmanship Clinic

April 12 @10:00 AM Boyd County, Show Ring

Chicken Keeping 101

April 15 @ 6:00 PM

OR

April 21 @ 10:00 AM Boyd County, Franks Building

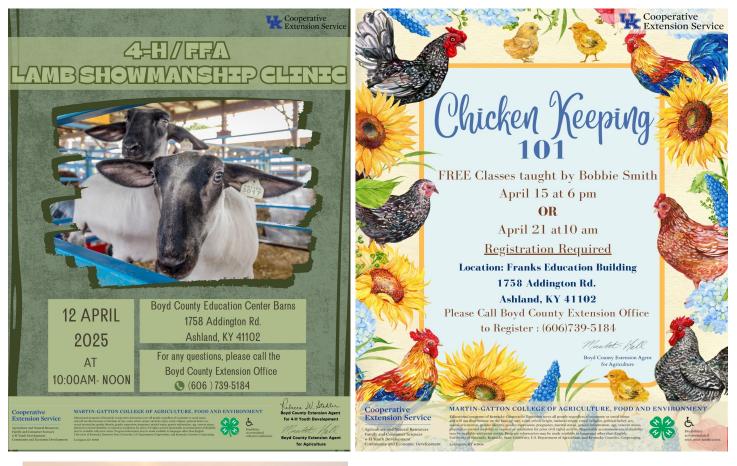
*Volunteer Banquet

April 24 @ 6:00 PM

Boyd County, Franks Building

* RSVP required, call the office 606-739-5184

* Eden Shale Farm Tour April 25 @ 10:30 AM





Follow us on our Facebook pages! Boyd County Agriculture

https://www.facebook.com/BoydCountyAgriculture/

Boyd County Cooperative Extension Service

https://www.facebook.com/BoydCountyCES/

10 Backyard Chicken Basics

Source: Jacquie Jacob, Extension Poultry Project Manager

Having a small chicken flock in the backyard is very popular these days. To have a successful flock producing eggs for your family, you'll want to learn the basics.

- Make sure you check your local city and county ordinances to ensure you're able to have a backyard flock. Some
 ordinances require a minimum amount of land and some subdivisions and homeowners' associations have their
 own rules.
- Chickens require daily care. You must feed them, provide clean water and collect eggs every single day. Managing
 a small flock is an excellent opportunity to teach children a certain amount of responsibility, but ultimately, you'll
 oversee the health and well-being of your flock.
- 3. Birds get sick and it may be difficult to find a veterinarian to provide care for them.
- 4. Cleanliness and sanitation are critical elements in caring for a small flock. Everyone must wash their hands before and after handling the birds. Also, no matter how tempting, avoid bringing your chickens into the house and don't use your kitchen sink to wash equipment.
- Poop happens. Chickens eat a lot and hens use about 60% of the feed they consume and excrete the other 40% as manure. You must have a plan for that manure. One option is adding it as an odor-free fertilizer for your home garden.
- 6. Keep it down. Chickens make noise. Only roosters crow, however, hens are not always quiet and can make a lot of noise letting everyone know they just laid an egg.
- 7. The egg season will come to an end. Chickens stop producing eggs at some point in their lives and may live a long time beyond their egg-laying years. Have a plan for what you will do with hens that stop producing. If you keep them as pets, you'll have to keep feeding them and providing other resources for their care.
- 8. Housing is a big part of keeping a flock. Your birds will need a house that provides shelter from the weather, next boxes for egg laying and perches for roosting at night. Make sure housing is easy to clean and provides protection from predators. You'll have to manage their bedding well to prevent rodents from making your chickens' house their home.
- 9. Scratch that. Chickens scratch when they forage. If you let hens run free, you may need to place a fence around your garden if you don't want the birds to destroy it.
- 10. Know how to get chicks. You will most likely want to raise your hens from chicks. You can buy them online and have them shipped to your home, but some suppliers have minimum quantities for orders. You may have neighbors or friends who also raise chickens willing to join you in an order. Remember you'll need to provide new chicks with a heat source, such as a lamp, for at least six weeks.







Watch for Poison Hemlock in Hayfields

Source: J.D. Green, extension weed scientist

In about a month, many of you will begin cutting your first hay of the season. While making hay, it is important for you to notice and remove poison hemlock from your hay or pasture fields.

Native to Europe, poison hemlock is an invasive weed that was introduced as an ornamental in the United States during the 1800s. It is potentially poisonous if ingested by livestock or humans in both its vegetative growth stages and when dry. The weed is often found along fencerows, roadways and other areas not used for cropland across most of Kentucky and the United States. However, in the past several years, its presence has increased across Kentucky, and it is now found in some hay and pasture fields.

If consumed, poisoning symptoms appear rather quickly in livestock and include nervousness, trembling, muscle weakness, loss of coordination, pupil dilation, coma and eventually death from respiratory failure. Livestock usually do not eat poison hemlock when in its natural growing state because of its unpalatable taste. However, they will eat it if no other forage is available or when they inadvertently consume it through hay.

Ideally, you should control poison hemlock with herbicide products applied during the plant's early vegetative growth stage during the late winter or early spring or with an herbicide treatment in the fall. By this time of the year it may now be too late for effective control with 2,4-D applied alone and may require other herbicide options for best control. With herbicide applications to grazed pastures remove livestock from the field until plants have fully died. You can also control poison hemlock by mowing or mechanically removing the plant before it produces new seeds, which occurs soon after flowering. If you find it while cutting hay, either mow around the weed or mow it separate from your stored hay.

The easiest way to identify poison hemlock is by its smooth, purple-spotted stem. Poison hemlock is often confused with the nontoxic weed Queen Anne's Lace (also called Wild Carrot) because both produce clusters of small, white flowers but Queen Anne's Lace will have hairs along its stem and leaf bases. Poison hemlock usually reaches its peak bloom in late May or early June, while Queen Anne's Lace blooms a little later in late June and July.

For more information on controlling weeds in pastures, contact the Boyd County office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

2025 BOYD COUNTY SADDLE CLUB OPEN FUN SHOW

OPEN RAIL SHOW CLASSES SATURDAY 3PM

JUNE 21 AUG 9 SEPT 27 OCT 11

Under age of 18 must wear a Helmet

**4 Show MEMBERSHIP/*JACKPOT SERIES (Dues paid by 6/21)

Boyd County Extenison Education Center 1760 Addington Rd, Ashland KY 41102

Trail Ranch Pattern Stick Horse (No Fee) Halter Adult Showmanship** Youth Showmanship** Lead line Beginner Rider – Small Fry w Beginner Rider – Youth w/fg Beginner Rider – Adult w/fg Hunter Under Saddle – Small Fry w/t Hunter Under Saddle - Youth** w/t Hunter Under Saddle – Adult** w/t Hunter Under Saddle – Open w/t/c Go as you Please - Small Fry w/fg Go as you Please – Youth** w/fg Go as you Please – Adult** w/fg Open English Equitation** w/fg Ranch Pleasure – Youth** w/j/l Ranch Pleasure – Adult ** w/j/l/xt/xl Open Western Equitation/Horsemanship w/fg Open Country Pleasure Racking w/sr/fr Western Pleasure – Small Fry w/j Western Pleasure – Youth** w/j Western Pleasure – Adult ** w/j/l Ladies Gaited Trail Pleasure w/fg Mens Gaited Trail Pleasure w/fg English Pleasure – Youth** w/fg English Pleasure – Adult** w/fg Gaited Trail Pleasure - Youth** w/fg Gaited Trail Pleasure – Adult** w/fg Open Spotted Horse(visibly spotted) w/fg Hunter Under Saddle Jackpot* w/t/xt/c/xc Gaited Trail Pleasure Jackpot* w/fg Ranch Jackpot* w/j/l/xt/xl Western Pleasure Jackpot* w/i/l Speed Racking Jackpot* w/sr/fr

Please request tack change at registration table

Classes can be added with 3 entries. Earpieces are permitted except for Jackpot Classes Ages are as of January 1st 2025. Small Fry 10 & under Youth 18 & under Adult 19+ \$5 Entry Fee except for \$10 Jackpot Classes 70% payback to class winners

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2025 BOYD COUNTY SADDLE CLUB OPEN FUN SHOW

TIMED EVENT CLASSES FRIDAY 7PM

JUNE 20 AUG 8 SEPT 26 OCT 10

Under age of 18 must wear a Helmet

**4 Show MEMBERSHIP/*JACKPOT Series (Dues paid by 6/20)

Boyd County Extension Education Center 1760 Addington Rd, Ashland KY 41102

Stick Horse	No Fee
Lead Line	\$5
Exhibition Poles	\$2
Small Fry Poles	\$5
Novice Rider Poles	\$5
Novice Horse Poles	\$5
Youth Poles**	\$10
Adult Poles**	\$10
Open Poles*	\$15
Exhibition Barrels	\$2
Small Fry Barrels	\$5
Novice Rider Barrels	\$5
Novice Horse Barrels	\$5
Youth Barrels**	\$10
Adult Barrels**	\$10
Open Barrels*	\$15
Open Flags	\$5
Open Down & Back	\$5
Open Stakes	\$5

Please request tack change at registration table Classes can be added with 3 entries / 1 MINUTE GATE CALL Ages are as of January 1st 2025. Small Fry 10 & under Youth 18 & under Adult 19+ Small Fry & Novice Classes – Ribbons / Youth, Adult, & Open Class – 70% Payback Horses in classes 6 & 13 can NOT participate in another class except exhibition Riders in classes 5 & 12 can NOT participate in another class except exhibition

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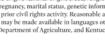
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2025 BOYD COUNTY SADDLE CLUB BEGINNER RIDER SCHOOLING FUN SHOW

AUGUST 2 OCTOBER 4

Under age of 18 must wear a Helmet

Trainers or Parents are permitted in ring with riders / Earpieces are permitted Ages are as of January 1st 2025. Small Fry 10 & under Youth 11 - 18 Adult 19+ Boyd County Extension Education Center 1760 Addington Rd, Ashland KY 41102

\$5 per class OR \$20 for the day

Stick Horse Lead Line **Beginner Halter Beginner Showmanship Small Fry Beginner Showmanship Youth Beginner Showmanship Adult** Beginner Walk – Small Fry Beginner Walk - Youth Beginner Walk – Adult Beginner Rider Western Pleasure Small Fry w/fg Beginner Rider Western Pleasure Youth w/fg Beginner Rider Western Pleasure Adult w/fg Beginner Horse 4 YRS & under w/fg Beginner Horse 5YRS & over w/fg 15 min tack change break Beginner Rider GO AS YOU PLEASE Small Fry w/fg Beginner Rider GO AS YOU PLEASE Youth w/fg Beginner Rider GO AS YOU PLEASE Adult w/fg Beginner Rider English attire Small Fry w/fg Beginner Rider English attire Youth w/fg Beginner Rider English attire Adult w/fg 15 min tack change break Beginner Rider Equitation Small Fry Eng/West w/fg Beginner Rider Equitation Youth Eng/West w/fg Beginner Rider Equitation Adult Eng/West w/fg Time Event set up Beginner Rider Poles – Small Fry **Beginner Rider Poles – Youth** Beginner Rider Poles – Adult **Beginner Horse Poles** Beginner Rider Barrels – Small Fry Beginner Rider Barrels – Youth Beginner Rider Barrels – Adult **Beginner Horse Barrels**

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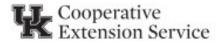
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Recipe Calendar



Lemon Broccoli Pasta



Prep time: 15 minutes Cook time: 25 minutes

- 1 box (16 ounces) whole-wheat pasta (rotini, spaghetti, bowtie, elbow macaroni)
- 1 package (12 to 14 ounces) frozen broccoli
- Zest of one lemon
- Juice of one lemon (about 2 tablespoons of lemon juice)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 1/2 teaspoons garlic powder or 1 clove of garlic, minced
- 2 cups spinach
- 1 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 1 cup reserved pasta water
- · Salt and pepper, to taste
- Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds.
- Boil water and prepare pasta according to package directions. Be sure to save 1 cup of pasta water for later use.

- While the pasta cooks, microwave broccoli for about 5 minutes, or until thawed.
- In a large saucepan over medium heat, add oil and sauté broccoli for 3-5 minutes.
- Add cooked pasta to the saucepan with the broccoli. Add lemon zest, lemon juice, garlic, spinach, and reserved pasta water. Use tongs or a spoon to evenly combine everything. Cook until spinach is wilted, about 5 minutes.
- Sprinkle over parmesan cheese and stir to combine. Reduce heat to low and cook for an additional 3 to 5 minutes or until it reaches desired texture.
- Serve.
- Refrigerate leftovers within 2 hours.

Makes 8 servings Serving size: 11/2 cups Cost per recipe: \$8.56 Cost per serving: \$1.07



USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. This material was partially funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program — SNAP.

Nutrition facts per serving:

320 calories; 9g total fat; 2.5g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 10mg cholesterol; 200mg sodium; 51g total carbohydrate; 7g dietary fiber; 2g total sugars; 0g added sugars; 13g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 10% Daily Value of calcium; 15% Daily Value of iron; 4% Daily Value of potassium

Source:

Jeannie Noble, RD, Extension Specialist for Nutrition; and Jen Robinson, NEP Area Nutrition Agent, University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service

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