Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
University of Kentucky

Cooperative Extension Service
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Agriculture and Natural Resources Newsletter

Boyd County Cooperative Extension Service

Greetings All,

As summer unfolds across our communities, we at the Boyd County Cooperative Extension Service are excited to support you through the season's opportunities and challenges Whether you are cultivating crops, managing livestock, stewarding natural resources or simply enjoying the outdoors, this is a time of growth, connection and hard work. We at the Boyd County Extension Service are wishing you a productive, safe, and enjoyable summer. As always feel, free to reach out– we are here to help!

Warm regards,

Meredith Hall
County Extension Agent
for Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Upcoming Events

Denotes preregistration is required

Boyd County Farmers Market Opens

June 3, 2025

See Flyer For Locations

Boyd County Saddle Club

Open Horse Show

June 20 & 21 *@ 3:00 PM*

Boyd County Education Center, Barns

***4-H Summer Camp**

June 30—July 3

Contact Boyd County 4-H for more information

***Yak & Learn**

July 15@ 5:00 PM

Grayson Lake, Clifty Ramp

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

Follow us on our Facebook pages!

Boyd County Agriculture

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

Boyd County Cooperative Extension Service

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

AGR-207

Broadleaf Weeds of Kentucky Pastures

J.D. Green, Plant and Soil Sciences

Cooperative Extension Service


Spiny Amaranth


Buttercup


Cocklebur


Horsenettle


Tall Ironweed


Hemp Dogbane


Poison Hemlock


Marshelder


Common Milkweed


Jimsonweed


Sericea Lespedeza

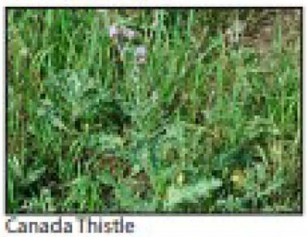

Maypop Passionflower


Buckhorn Plantain


Perilla Mint


Multiflora Rose


Trumpetcreeper


Canada Thistle


Common Ragweed


Lanceleaf Ragweed


Wild Carrot


Bull Thistle


Musk Thistle


Curly Dock


Chicory

Response of Pasture Weeds to Herbicides and Mowing

Weed Species	Life Cycle[1]	Preferred Time for Herbicide Treatment[2]	2,4-D (various products)	dicamba (Clarity, etc.)	dicamba+ 2,4-D (Weedmaster etc.)	Crossbow	PastureGard	DuraCor	GrazonNext	Chaparral[3]	metsulfuron[3] (MSM60, Patriot, etc.)	Sharpen	MOWING[4]
Amaranth, Spiny (Pigweed)	A	May-July	F/G	F/G	G	G	F/G	G	G	G	G	-	X
Aster spp. (White Heath Aster)	A	July-Sept	F/G	G	G	G	-	-	-	-	F	P	R
Burdock, Common	B	Feb-Mar	G	F	G	G	G	G	G	G	F	P	R
Buttercup spp.	A	Feb-Mar	G	F/G	G	G	F	G	G	G	G	P/F	X
Carrot, Wild (Queen Anne's Lace)	B	May-June	F/G	F/G	F/G	F/G	F	G	G	G	G	P	R
Chickweed,Common	A	Nov or Feb-Mar	P	F/G	G	F	G	G	G	G	G	P/F	X
Chicory	P	Feb-Mar or Aug-Nov	F/G	F/G	G	G	G	G	G	G	F/G	P	R
Clover, White	P	May-Aug	F	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	P	X
Cocklebur,Common	A	May-July	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	R
Dandelion	P	Oct-Nov or Mar-Apr	G	G	G	G	F/G	G	G	G	G	P	X
Deadnettle, Purple	A	Feb-Mar	P	F/G	G	F	G	G	G	G	G	-	X
Dock, Curly or Broadleaf	P	Feb-Apr	P/F	F	F/G	G	F/G	G	G	G	G	P	X
Dogbane, Hemp	P	May-Aug	P/F	F	F	G	G	P/F	P/F	P/F	P	P	S
Garlic, Wild	P	Nov or Mar-Apr	F	F	F	F	P	F	F	F/G	G	P	X
Goldenrod spp.	P	June-Aug	F	F/G	F/G	G	F	F	F/G	F/G	P	P	S
Hemlock, Poison	B	Nov or Mar-Apr	F/G	F/G	F/G	F/G	P	F/G	F/G	-	F	P	R
Henbit	A	Feb-Mar	P	F/G	G	F	F/G	G	G	G	G	-	X
Horsenettle	P	July-Aug	P	P/F	F	F	P/F	G	G	F/G	F	P	X
Ironweed, Tall	P	June-Aug	P	F	F	G	G	G	G	G	P	P	S
Jimsonweed	A	May-July	F	G	G	G	-	G	G	G	-	-	R
Lespedeza, Sericea	P	June-July	P	P/F	P/F	G	G	P/F	P/F	F/G	F/G	P	X
Marshelder (Sumpweed)	A	May-July	F/G	F/G	G	G	F	G	G	G	F	-	R
Milkweed, Common	P	July-Sept	P	F	P/F	F	P/F	P/F	P/F	P/F	P	P	S
Mint, Perilla	A	May-July	F	F	F/G	G	F/G	G	G	G	-	-	S
Multiflora Rose	P	Apr-June or Sept	P	P	F	G	G	F	F	F/G	G	P	X
Passionflower, Maypop	P	May-July	P	P	P	P/F	F	P	P	P	-	P	X
Plantain, Broadleaf or Buckhorn	P	Oct-Nov or Mar-Apr	F/G	F	F/G	G	F	G	F/G	F/G	F/G	P	X
Pokeweed, Common	P	May-July	F	F/G	F/G	F/G	P	F/G	F/G	F	P	P	S
Ragweed,Common	A	May-July	F/G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	P	G	R
Ragweed, Lanceleaf	A	May-July	F/G	G	G	G	-	G	G	-	P	-	R
Sida, Arrowleaf	A	May-July	P	P	P	-	-	F	F	F	-	-	R
Sneezeweed, Bitter	A	May-July	F/G	F/G	G	G	G	G	G	G	-	-	R
Sorrel, Red (Sheep Sorrel)	P	Sept-Nov or Mar	P	F	F/G	F/G	F	-	-	F/G	F/G	P	X
Spurge, Nodding	A	June-July	P	P	P	P/F	-	P/F	P/F	G	G	-	R
Thistle, Bull	B	Oct-Nov or Feb-Mar	G	G	G	G	F/G	G	G	G	F/G	P	R
Thistle, Canada	P	Prebud or Oct-Nov	P	P/F	F	F	P/F	G	G	G	F	P	S
Thistle, Musk	B	Oct-Nov or Feb-Mar	G	G	G	G	F/G	G	G	G	F/G	P	R
Thistle, Plumeless	B	Oct-Nov or Feb-Mar	G	G	G	G	F/G	G	G	G	F/G	P	R
Tickclover (Desmodium spp.)	P	June-Aug	P	-	F	F/G	F/G	F/G	F/G	-	-	P	R
Trumpetcreeper	P	Aug-Sept	P	P	P/F	F	F	P	P	-	P	P	X

Control: **G** = Good or Excellent; **F** = Fair (suppression or partial control); **P** = Poor; **-** = No Information

[1] Life Cycle: **A** = Annuals; **P** = Perennials; **B** = Biennials

[2] The preferred time for herbicide treatment will depend on environmental conditions and other factors.

[3] May cause temporary yellowing, stunting and seedhead suppression of tall fescue (consult label). Metsulfuron is an active ingredient in several products (e.g. Chaparral, MSM60, Patriot, Purestand).

[4] Mowing: **R** = Timely mowing reduces top growth and seed production; **S** = Suppression of top growth; **X** = Not very effective

Note: This table should be used only as a guide for comparing the relative effectiveness of herbicides to a particular weed. The herbicide may perform better or worse than indicated in the table depending on the species, weed size, time of application, and/or extreme weather conditions. Consult herbicide label for weed height or growth stage and product amount. Read and follow all label directions and precautions before herbicide application.

Adapted from *Weed Management in Grass Pastures, Hayfields, and Other Farmstead Sites* (AGR-172; revised 3-2021). Available at http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/agr/agr172/agr172.pdf.

Cooperative Extension Service

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MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Lexington, KY 40546 Revised 03-2024

Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

Avoid Tall Fescue Toxicity this Spring

Jordan Strickler,

Tall fescue is grown on an estimated 35 million acres across the United States. In Kentucky, it can make up at least 20% of any given pasture. While most often a safe grass for consumption, it can bring hazards.

Equine fescue toxicosis is caused when pregnant mares eat tall fescue infected with an endophyte fungus, Epichloë coenophialum. Consumption of the endophyte-infected fescue can have effects on mares and foals.

“Fescue itself is not a problem for horses,” said Krista Lea, MS, research analyst in the University of Kentucky’s Department of Plant and Soil Sciences and coordinator for the UK Horse Pasture Evaluation Program. “The problem is that most fescue naturally occurring in Kentucky, and throughout the Southeastern United States, is infected with an endophyte which can produce compounds toxic to horses and other livestock. The most common of these is ergovaline.”

The grass is a cool-season, perennial bunchgrass brought to North America in the late 1800s from Europe. Since the detection of a field in Eastern Kentucky in 1931, and the ensuing release of the Kentucky-31 variety 12 years later, fescue has become the predominant cool-season perennial grass in the Southeast

Studies have shown toxicity symptoms appear in pregnant mares at ergovaline levels greater than 300 parts per billion. However, most UK extension publications suggest a more conservative level of 150 to 200 ppb. During the last trimester of pregnancy, researchers generally advise managers remove mares from endophyte-infected pastures to prevent serious difficulties. Fortunately, fescue toxicity in other classes of horses (such as geldings and stallions) has been negligible.

Continued…..

Clinical signs of tall fescue toxicity in pregnant mares include increased gestation length; agalactia (absence of milk production); foal and mare mortality; tough, thickened or retained placentas; weak and immature foals; reduced serum prolactin levels; and reduced progesterone levels. Other signs include abortions, decreased conception, early embryonic mortality and dystocia.

“Getting rid of it on a wide scale is difficult because it's so well adapted,” said Lea. “Fescue with the endophyte is much tougher and resistant to grazing, drought and pests. Infected tall fescue is really tough and durable in pastures. The best way is to mitigate it or just remove it from individual pastures one at a time. There are some herbicides you can use which will kill the fescue without killing other grasses.”

Another alternative is to dilute concentrations of toxic tall fescue in pastures by overseeding other grasses and legumes. Since horses do not prefer tall fescue, having other grasses available significantly lowers the chances for toxicity.

Ergovaline concentrations are the highest within the seedheads of the endophyte-infected tall fescue. Strategic mowing of the infected pastures to prevent seed development can lessen the possibility of a spike in toxicity levels. Ergovaline dissipates from the plant after several winter freezes.

Ergovaline levels in endoyphyte-infected tall fescue are the highest in the spring. As summertime approaches, grasses slow their rate of growth and ergovaline concentration. On Thoroughbred farms, broodmares are usually in their last trimester during the winter months, therefore the risk for toxicity is much lower in early foaling mares.

Lea says that one thing she encourages mare owners to consider is planting novel endophyte tall fescues, such as the Lacefield MaxQ II variety developed by UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment plant breeder Tim Phillips, PhD, associate professor in Plant and Soil Sciences. Novel endophyte varieties contain special endophytes that enhance persistence, but do not produce or produce lower levels of ergot alkaloids, making them safe for grazing. Endophyte-free varieties are also safe for grazing, but have poor persistence, especially when forage is overgrazed and under drought conditions.

To learn more about the UK Horse Pasture Evaluation Program, visit https://equine.ca.uky.edu/horsepastures. To learn more about fescue toxicity in livestock and how to combat it, visit https://grasslandrenewal.org/workshops/ to participate in several virtual workshops put on by the Alliance for Grassland Renewal.

Jordan Strickler is an agricultural communications specialist within UK’s College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

Recipes from the 2025 Food and Nutrition

Recipe Calendar

Cooperative Extension Service

Slow Cooker Asian Pork Tacos

Pork prep time: 10 minutes
Pork cook time: 3-7 hours (depending on temperature of slow cooker)
Slaw prep time: 20 minutes

Pulled Pork Tacos

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 2 pounds pork tenderloin
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon ginger powder (or 1 tablespoon fresh ginger)
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder (or 3 whole garlic cloves smashed and peeled)
- 1 cup hoisin sauce
- 12, 6-inch tortillas for serving

Asian Peanut Slaw

- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons white vinegar
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 tablespoon low-sodium soy sauce
- 1 bag (12 ounces) coleslaw or broccoli slaw
- 1/2 cup dry roasted unsalted peanuts, chopped (optional)
- 2 green onions, chopped
- 1 cup cilantro, chopped

1. Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds.
2. Coat a slow cooker with nonstick cooking spray. Place pork tenderloin in the slow cooker and season with salt, pepper, ginger, and garlic. Wash hands after handling raw meat.
3. Pour the hoisin sauce over top of the pork. Cover and cook on high for 3 to 4 hours or low for 5 to 7 hours until the pork reaches a minimum internal temperature of 145 degrees F using a food thermometer.
4. Transfer the cooked pork to a plate and shred with two forks. Return to slow cooker and stir it together with the sauce. Leave in the slow cooker on "warm" until ready to serve.
5. While the pork cooks, make the slaw. In a large bowl, combine oil, vinegar, honey, and low-sodium soy sauce. Add slaw, peanuts, green onions, and cilantro. Toss to combine.
6. To serve, warm the tortillas in microwave for a few seconds, covered with a damp towel to keep them moist. Fill with shredded pork, then top with Asian Peanut Slaw. Roll up and serve.
7. Refrigerate leftovers within 2 hours.

Note: If you don't have hoisin sauce, you can substitute: 1/2 cup ketchup, 2 tablespoons brown sugar, 1/2 cup low-sodium soy sauce, 1 teaspoon garlic powder, 1/2 teaspoon ginger powder, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1/4 teaspoon pepper, and a dash of hot sauce.

Makes 12 servings
Serving Size: 1 taco
(1/3 cup pork on tortilla with 1/3 cup slaw)
Cost per recipe: $10.44
Cost per serving: $0.87

SNAP — USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Putting Healthy Food Within Reach

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

Nutrition facts per serving:
250 calories; 10g total fat; 1.5g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 50mg cholesterol; 350mg sodium; 20g total carbohydrate; 2g dietary fiber; 5g total sugars; 4g added sugars; 19g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 2% Daily Value of calcium; 6% Daily Value of iron; 10% Daily Value of potassium

Source:
Rosie Allen, NEP Special Projects, University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension

Lexington, KY 40506