

SEPTEMBER 2025

Nicholas County Extension



University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Ag and Natural Resources Newsletter

Summer plant care tips for healthier, longer-lasting blooms

By mid-summer, many summer annuals have already produced plenty of flowers, and some may be starting to set seed. Once this happens, plants shift their energy toward maturing seeds instead of producing more blooms. You can encourage fresh flowers by “deadheading,” or removing the faded blossoms. Snip off the spent blooms, give the plant a boost with a liquid fertilizer following the label instructions, and keep it well-watered. This helps redirect energy back into growth and flowering instead of seed production.

Marigolds, zinnias, cosmos, verbena, geraniums and petunias all respond well to deadheading.

That said, many modern hybrids of petunias, zinnias, and verbena are bred to keep blooming steadily without it. If your plant is vigorous, green and producing new flowers, you can skip the step. Container plants often get overgrown or tired-looking by mid-summer. A good trim can spark fresh growth, but sometimes the best option is to replace them entirely. Swapping in new plants can instantly brighten an entryway or patio and give your outdoor spaces a refreshed look.

Regular watering is essential during the hottest months. Annual flowers and vegetable gardens often need water every few days. Deep watering every other day is better than a light sprinkle daily, as it encourages roots to grow deeper. If a good summer rain soaks the soil, you can safely skip your next watering.

If plants lose their rich green color or their growth slows, they may need feeding. Applying a liquid fertilizer as directed on the label can bring noticeable results in just a few days. For best results, water the soil first — feeding dry plants will have little effect.

Trees and shrubs usually require less attention in summer. Established woody plants are fairly drought-tolerant and can often go a week to 10 days without rain. If summer storms damage limbs, prune them back at any time. You can also remove spent flowers from shrubs now but save major pruning for late winter or early spring.



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Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

2025 CENTRAL KENTUCKY HAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Testing provides nutritional value of hay to assist in balancing rations, and can result in reduced feed cost, increased animal performance, and information to improve forage stands.

Free analysis to determine hay quality and livestock needs.

Call 859-289-2312 or
email
shelby.cleaver@uky.edu
to sign up



Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
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**DEADLINE TO REGISTER:
SEPTEMBER 29**

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Join us on **Thursday September 11th**
at 6PM to learn about shortening your
calving season and helpful tools to
implement in your herds.



CAIP Education

Nicholas County
Livestock Barn
1471 Concrete Rd.
Carlisle

We will have a meal provided
for those that register ahead of
time, to register please call our
office at 859-289-2312 or email
shelby.cleaver@uky.edu

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Livestock Waterers

Join us on **September 23rd at 6PM** to learn about
providing and improving drinking water for your
livestock



CAIP Education



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those that register ahead of time, to
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2025 Horses & Horsemen: Farm & Facilities Expo



Tuesday, September 16th

RSVP to Bourbon County Extension Office: 859-987-1895

Schedule:

5:00: Registration and Trade Fair

6:00: Dinner

6:15: Welcome & Farm Overview

Arena footing and maintenance - Dr. Coleman, UK Equine Extension Specialist

Pasture Walk —Central KY ANR Agents

Heavy Use Areas & Farm Infrastructure— Dr. Bob Coleman

Horsemanship Demo - Mike & Chris Stokley

Location:

Mike & Chris Stokley

Big Creek Livestock

1310 Thatchers Mill Rd

Paris, KY 40361



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BQCA Certification

**September 22
4PM**

**September 25
10AM and 3PM**

Please call the office to sign up 859-289-2312, if no one signs up for a date/time they will be cancelled

FREE



FREE

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Strategies To Reduce Fertilizer

Use On Cattle Pastures

Join us Tuesday October 28th at 6PM to learn about feeding hay to recycle nutrients, clipping weeds to enhance fertility, appropriate stocking rates and implementing basic rotational grazing



CAIP Education

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Rd. Carlisle

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SURVIVING HIGH PRICES WEBINAR SERIES



WEDNESDAYS: 2-3 P.M. ET | 1-2 P.M. CT | 12-2 P.M. MT | 11-12 P.M. PT

Join us for a 6-week series to learn about & discuss the uniqueness of the current cattle cycle so we can better understand how to help our producers manage their operations through record-high prices! Speakers will include Extension economists and specialists from across the United States.

DATES	TOPICS
September 10	Industry Margins & Beef Demand
September 17	Differences in this Cattle Cycle & Import Dynamics
October 1	Risk Management & What To Do With Profits
October 8	Operation Resiliency & Contract Grazing
October 22	Integrated Crop-Livestock Systems & How Not to Need a Hay Baler
October 29	Defining "Better Genetics" & Economics of Reproduction Strategies

Visit this link or scan the QR Code to register: bit.ly/register-for-SHPwebinar



The University of Kentucky is an Equal Opportunity Institution. The University of Kentucky is committed to providing universal access to all of our events. For disability accommodations such as sign language interpreters and listening devices, please contact Human Resources at hr@uky.edu, 606-258-7931, at least 12 weeks in advance. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs.



Creamy Cucumber and Chicken Salad

½ pound chicken breast
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
1 cup slivered almonds
½ cup nonfat plain Greek yogurt
3 ounces reduced fat cream cheese
2 tablespoons Dijon mustard

½ teaspoon sea salt
1 teaspoon ground black pepper
2 tablespoons fresh chopped dill
2 medium cucumbers, chopped
1 cup dried cranberries
8 lettuce leaves

Marinate chicken breast in lemon juice for one hour. **Remove** chicken from marinade and **chop** into bite sized pieces. **Sauté** in preheated non-stick skillet until thoroughly cooked and no longer pink in the center. **Set aside** to cool. **Toast** slivered almonds on low heat in a non-stick skillet until fragrant. **Set aside** to cool. In a large mixing bowl **combine** yogurt, cream cheese, mustard, salt, pepper and dill. **Add** chicken and **toss**. **Add**

cucumbers, cranberries and almonds to chicken mixture. **Toss** to coat. **Cover and chill** in refrigerator for 1 hour. **Spoon** salad into washed and dried lettuce leaves. **Serve** cold.

Yield: 8 servings

Nutritional Analysis: 210 calories, 10 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 30 mg cholesterol, 290 mg sodium, 19 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber, 14 g sugars, 12 g protein.