Cooperative Extension Service | Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Cumberland County
Cooperative Extension Service
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County Agricultural Incentives Program

It's that time of year... cost share!

The County Agricultural Incentives Program (CAIP or cost share) is a program that producers may apply for to potentially receive funding for on-farm projects. This can range from purchasing livestock to promotional signage to infrastructures (i.e., shed, pole barn etc.).

For the 2025 program, a new requirement states that all educational sessions must be attended in person. If approved, recipients will receive a list of upcoming educational classes, which will meet the educational requirement for CAIP, by mail.

MONEY FOR ON-FARM INCENTIVES AVAILABLE...

KADF
KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Cumberland County Conservation District
329 Keen Street PO Box 228
Burkesville, KY 42717
270-864-2606
Wanda.gilbert@gmail.com
Visit our Facebook Page Cumberland County Conservation District

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL INCENTIVES PROGRAM (CAIP)

Applications will be available for Cumberland County's CAIP to assist farmers in making important on-farm incentives. Bring a valid Ky Driver's License or Photo Id with a utility bill with home address for proof of residence, not the farm address. Must be 18 or older to apply.

Application Period:
July 16, 2025 – August 12, 2025. (Office will be closed August 4-6, 2025 for Training.) *No application will be accepted after August 12, 2025 at close of business.*

Application Availability:
Cumberland County Conservation District
Monday – Friday (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

For More Information:
Contact Wanda J Gilbert at 270-864-2606 or email @ wanda.gilbert@gmail.com

All applications are scored, based on the scoring criteria set by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.

HOW DO YOU SELECT YOUR BULLS?

Darrh Bullock, University of Kentucky and Matt Spangler, University of Nebraska

Bull selection is one of the most important decisions that a beef producer makes and can have a lasting impact on profitability. Factors such as the market endpoint of calves (e.g., newly weaned or finished cattle), whether replacements will be retained, and the level of nutritional management provided to the cow herd all impact which traits should be selected for and at what level. Understanding this complex relationship can be the difference between buying a "good" bull and buying the right bull.

The eBEEF.org team, a group of beef cattle geneticists from across the US, is trying to determine how beef producers are currently selecting their bulls and will use this information to develop educational materials to help improve this process. Knowing which traits to select for is often not the problem, it is the degree to which each should be emphasized that can be highly variable from producer to producer and can often be challenging to determine. Too often this process is more 'seat of the pants' rather than by factors affecting profitability. For example, trying to find the optimal level of calving ease without sacrificing profit by not emphasizing traits like sale weight of the calves enough

To assess how beef producers are selecting bulls, within their level of management, we are asking you to fill out a brief survey. This should take approximately 10 minutes of your time and provide a wealth of information for the beef industry! This information will be used to compare the survey results to values generated by iGENDEC, a software package that determines the most profitable level of emphasis that should be placed on each trait within a specific production system.

Several incentives are being offered to encourage participation in this survey. The first is a random drawing for five $100 gift cards generously donated by the Beef Improvement Federation (beefimprovement.org). The second is a special webinar that will be offered to everyone that completes a survey, and provides their email address, to discuss the findings of the survey and resulting bull selection strategies. Lastly, and possibly most importantly, knowledge gained by beef producers by going through this process and the entire beef industry through better bull selection decisions.

Survey Link:
https://corexmsd9bfwdhxgbhmw.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eFqYgoQpZMJLRLE

SUMMER HEAT SAFETY

By Derrick Snyder - National Weather Service Paducah, KY

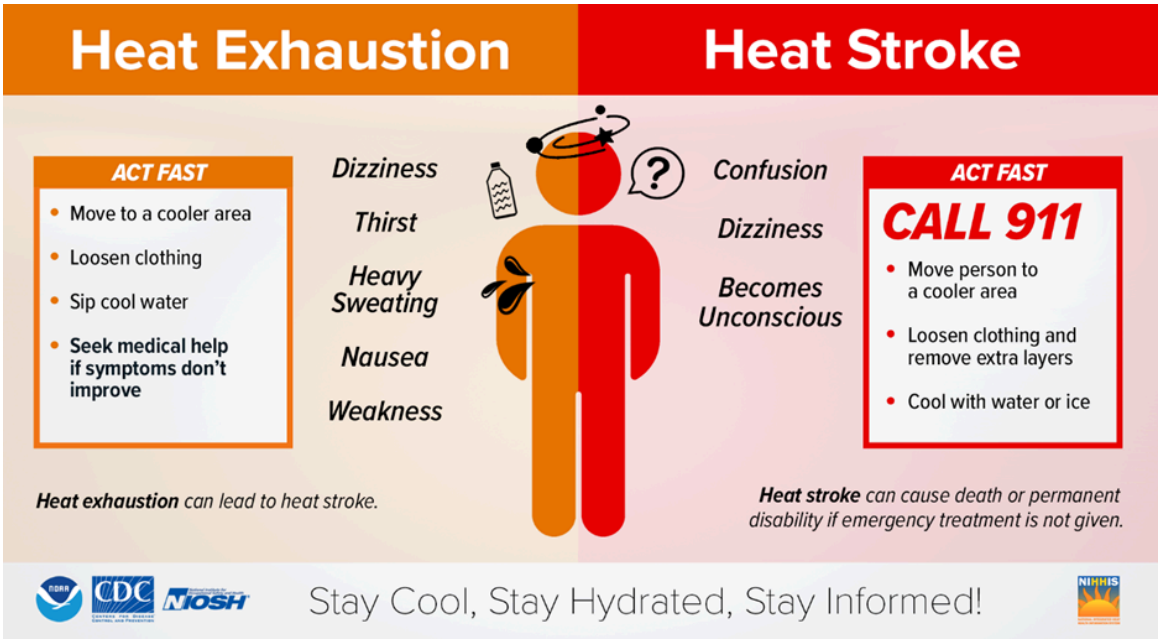
As summertime ramps up across the Commonwealth, so do the dangers of prolonged exposure to excessive heat. Heat is one of the deadliest forms of weather across the country. What makes it particularly dangerous is that the effects of heat are accumulative. Impacts on the body become progressively worse with similar levels of heat exposure several days in the row. For those who work outdoors during the summer, knowing the signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke can prevent serious injuries, or even death.

Know these signs:

- Heat Exhaustion: Becoming faint or dizzy, excessive sweating, cool/clammy skin, nausea, rapid/weak pulse, muscle cramps. Act fast and move the person experiencing heat exhaustion to a cooler area, loosen their clothing, sip cool water, and seek medical help if symptoms do not improve.
- Heat Stroke:Acting confused, dizziness, loss of consciousness/passing out. If someone has these symptoms, CALL 9-1-1 IMMEDIATELY, as this condition could become deadly or cause permanent disability!

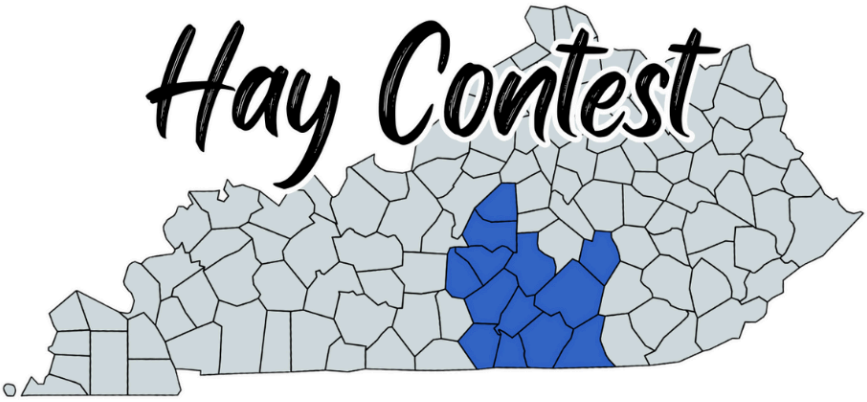
Follow these tips to practice heat safety:

- Avoid heavy activity and direct sunlight.
- Do the most intensive outdoor work early in the morning or late in the evening to avoid exposure to the greatest heat and humidity levels.
- Stay hydrated, find a cool indoor place, and check on children, the elderly, and pets.
- Protect yourself outside by wearing light, loose-fitting clothes, and spend time in the shade.
- Never leave anyone (or pets) alone in a locked car, even in the winter, as death from heat stroke can occur in as little as 10 minutes!



Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment

SOUTH-CENTRAL KY Hay Contest



The South-Central KY Area Hay Contest is offered to all individuals raising hay in Adair, Casey, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Marion, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Washington, and Wayne counties. This program aims to provide producers with free hay analysis results to aid in educating producers on raising higher quality forages and meeting livestock needs.

Producers may submit multiple samples in each contest area to their county agriculture agent. Samples must be submitted no later than September 30th, 2025. Results will include crude protein, DM, TDN, RFV, ADF, and NDF. After completion of the program, an area-wide event will be held to provide an educational overview of the program and present awards to contest winners. There will be one winner selected for the entire area for each hay class. Please reach out to your county agriculture agent for further information.

New World Screwworm

(*Cochliomyia hominivorax*)

New World screwworm (NWS) is a devastating pest of livestock. It can affect any warm-blooded animal. It can also affect people. Untreated screwworm infestations can be fatal to livestock, wildlife, and humans. Not controlling the pest in a livestock population can damage a country's economy.

Distribution

NWS is endemic in Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and countries in South America.

Since 2006, the United States and Panama have maintained a barrier zone in eastern Panama. This barrier zone prevents NWS from moving north from South America to screwworm-free areas in Central and North America.

In 2023, APHIS confirmed an unprecedented number of NWS cases in Panama. Since then, cases have been detected in every Central American country and Mexico.

Hosts

NWS can affect livestock, pets, wildlife, occasionally birds, and in rare cases, people.

This pest can infest a wide variety of wounds, from tick bites to cuts and dehorning or branding wounds. Infestations are very common in the navels of newborn animals and the genital regions of their mothers.

Description

Adult screwworm flies have orange eyes, a metallic blue or green body, and three dark stripes along their backs. The center stripe begins partway down the backside and appears shorter than the outer stripes.

Screwworm larvae (maggots) burrow into a wound, feeding as they go like a screw driving into wood. The maggots cause extensive damage by tearing at the hosts' tissue with sharp mouth hooks. The wound becomes deeper and larger as more maggots hatch and feed on living tissue.

Impact

NWS can threaten the livelihood of livestock producers. It can cause millions of dollars' worth of production losses and economic damage. Screwworm also pose a threat to humans in infested areas.

What You Can Do

Immediately report signs of screwworm to your local veterinarian, State veterinarian's office, or USDA (**www.aphis.usda.gov/contact/animal-health**). Look for the following signs in warm-blooded animals (including pets and birds):

- Irritated behavior
- Head shaking
- The smell of decay
- Presence of maggots in a wound

Adult screwworm fly

If you travel with a dog to regions affected by screwworm, know the requirements for returning to the United States. Go to **www.aphis.usda.gov/pet-travel/another-country-to-us-import/dogs** for more information.

If you live or are traveling in areas affected by screwworm, have your animals inspected before you move them. Use available animal checkpoints to prevent the spread of this pest.

Learn More

For more information about screwworm, including information on the NWS outbreak in Central America and Mexico, go to **www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/cattle/ticks/screwworm**.

For information on how screwworms affect people or to report human disease, please visit **www.cdc.gov/myiasis/about/about-new-world-screwworm-myiasis.html**.

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GARDEN FRESH SALSA

- 5 large tomatoes
- 1 medium onion
- 1 large green bell pepper
- 1 small jalapeño (optional)
- 1 small bunch cilantro
- 2 cloves garlic or 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- Salt, to taste (optional)

1. Gently run produce under cool running water; dry.
2. Dice tomatoes, onion, and bell pepper.
3. Remove core and seeds of jalapeño; mince.
4. Remove cilantro stems; chop.
5. Mince garlic.
6. Place all ingredients into a bowl and stir to mix. Cover and refrigerate at least 1 hour before serving with tortilla chips.
7. Refrigerate leftovers within 2 hours.

Source: Source: Brooke Jenkins, Extension Specialist, and Jeannie Najor, Program Coordinator II with the Nutrition Education Program, University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service

Nutrition facts per serving: 10 calories; 0g total fat; 0g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 0mg cholesterol; 0mg sodium; 2g total carbohydrates; 1g fiber; 1g total sugars; 0g added sugars; 0g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 0% Daily Value of calcium; 0% Daily Value of iron; 2% Daily Value of potassium.