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



# Hickman County Agriculture and Natural Resources Newsletter

## APRIL/MAY 2022

**Cooperative Extension Service**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Family and Consumer Sciences  
4-H Youth Development  
Community and Economic Development

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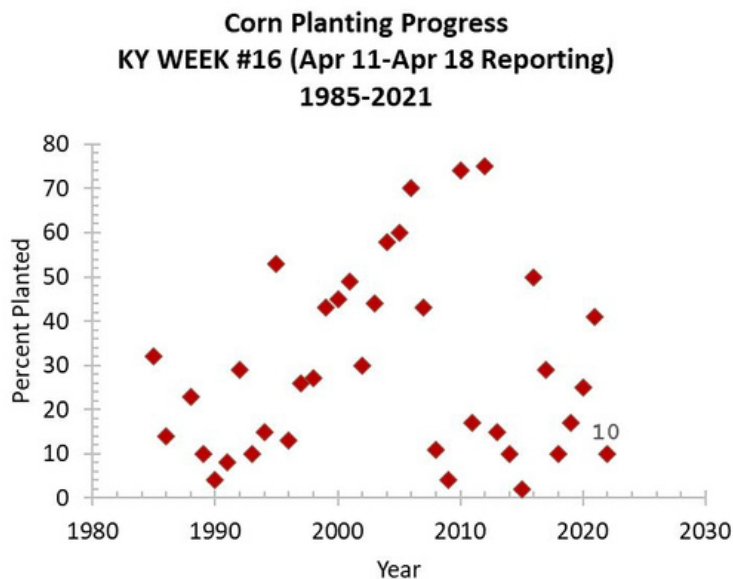
# Kentucky Corn Planting Progress does not Explain Corn Yield

Chad Lee, University of Kentucky

[Chad.Lee@uky.edu](mailto:Chad.Lee@uky.edu)

Corn planting is on everyone's mind as corn planting progress is as late this year as it has been in a long time.

The Week #16 corn planting progress was only 10%, but corn planting progress reports from 2001 to 2021 show very little correlation between planting progress and yield. Let's get to the some of the erratic planting patterns we have observed and then we will get back to those correlation.



## Wild Swings in Corn Planting Since 2008

Since 2001, corn planting progress for the Week#16 report has been below 20% nine springs, with all of those occurring since 2008. Corn planting progress has been at 60% or above four springs. The highest planting progress rate occurred in 2012 which also had the severe drought and the lowest corn yields.

## Poor Correlation Between Planting Progress and Corn Yields

RELAX.

Corn planting progress in these reports have very little correlation to corn yields at the end of the season. Graphs with blue circles include corn planting progress for Weeks #15, 16, 17 and 18 compared with corn yields for 2001 to 2021. Corn with green circles include the same comparisons, except that 2012 is removed.

With 2012 included the correlations between corn planting progress and corn yield are stronger with r-square values ranging from 0.44 to 0.32. In all those comparisons, the 2012 season pulls the yields down when more acres are planted early. Again, 2012 had the highest planting progress for most weeks and the lowest yields of any year.

When 2012 is removed correlations between corn planting progress and yield become weaker with r-square values ranging from 0.11 to 0.185. With these weak correlations, the weak trend suggests that more planting progress in weeks 15, 16 and 17 result in lower corn yields.

Week #18 gets interesting. For Week #18, corn planting progress between about 40 and 60% resulted in highest yields most often whether 2012 is included or not. Again, these correlations are weak. If anything, they confirm that many other factors besides planting date are important for corn yields. I would suggest that these correlations support that field conditions and weather are more important than calendar for planting corn. Still, it will be fun to see what the Week #18 report tells us.

**Full Article at <https://www.kygrains.info/blog/2022/4/26/kentucky-corn-planting-progress-does-not-explain-corn-yield>**

# Hickman County Ag Community

Rebuilding after our region's December 2021 tornadoes goes beyond that of the houses, farms and physical infrastructure which have been lost. The McCracken County Cooperative Extension Service Office is here to assist Western Kentucky agricultural community members in honing tools to take care of your mental and emotional health. The program is called FarmHand.

FarmHand is a partnership between McCracken County Cooperative Extension Service, the Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention & Eastern Kentucky University's Psychology Clinic to provide telepsychology services (counseling via Zoom) and mental health resources to Western Kentucky agricultural community members. Counseling via Zoom can be done in the comfort of your own home or in a private room at our office.



## Counseling Services

EKU Telepsychology staff will be on hand during special hours to connect Western Kentucky ag community members with online (Zoom) counseling services.

Tuesdays through 5/31 from 4-7pm EST  
Call (tel.) 859-622-4652

Wednesdays through 5/26 from 5-7pm EST  
Call (tel.) 859-622-4655

Telepsychology services can be accessed from a private room at the McCracken County Cooperative Extension Service office or in any place of your preference which has a strong internet connection. For more information on the services, please visit:

<https://bit.ly/farmhandprogram>

## FarmHand



**Extension connecting you with tools  
for mental wellbeing.**

*A partnership between McCracken County Extension, the  
Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention  
& Eastern Kentucky University's Psychology Clinic.*

**A Hand to**  
manage  
cope  
heal  
grieve  
grow



# OFF THE HOOF

Cooperative Extension Service  
University of Kentucky

Beef IRM Team

**KENTUCKY BEEF CATTLE NEWSLETTER, MAY 1, 2022**

*Published Monthly by UK Beef IRM Team and edited by Dr. Les Anderson, Beef Extension Specialist, Department of Animal & Food Science, University of Kentucky*

## Contents

This month's newsletter includes:

Timely Tips – Anderson

Crabgrass for Summer Grazing...Have you lost your mind??? - [Teutsch](#)

Grass Tetany - A Complicated Disorder with [An Easy Prevention](#) – [Lehmkuhler](#) and Arnold

10 tips for Managing High Feed Prices. - [VanValin](#)

Beef Cow Slaughter Pace Exceeding Last Year's High Levels – [Burdine](#)

## Timely Tips

*Dr. Les Anderson, Beef Extension Professor, University of Kentucky*

### Spring-Calving Cow Herd

- Continue supplying a high magnesium mineral until daytime temperatures are consistently above 60 degrees F.
- Improve or maintain body condition (BCS 5) of cows before breeding season starts. If necessary, increase energy intake even on pasture.
- Bulls should have a breeding soundness evaluation (BSE) well before the breeding season (at least 30 days). Contact your local veterinarian to schedule a BSE for your herd sires. They should also receive their annual booster vaccinations and be dewormed. I often get questions regarding deworming and reduced fertility in bulls. Dr. Phil Prater at MSU and I examined this and found no effect of deworming on bull fertility.
- Schedule spring “turn-out” working in late-April or early-May; i.e. at the end of calving season and before the start of breeding season. Consult with your veterinarian about vaccines and health products for your herd.

“Turn-out” working for the cow herd *may* include:

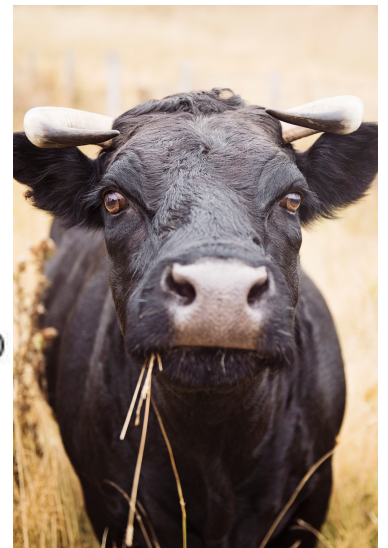
- [Prebreeding](#) vaccinations
- Deworming
- Replacing lost identification tags
- Sort cows into breeding groups, if using more than one bull
- Insecticide [eartags](#) (best to wait until fly population builds up)

“Turn-out” working of calves may include:

- Vaccinate for IBR-PI3, [Clostridial](#) diseases and Pinkeye

**Read entire article at**

**<https://afs.ca.uky.edu/files/offthehoofmay22.pdf>**





# UK WHEAT FIELD DAY

## May 10, 2022

1205 Hopkinsville St., Princeton KY 42445

Registration begins at 8:00

Wagons roll at 8:45

### TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Variety Trial (Walk Through)
- Wheat Management in a Warmer/Wetter Climate
- Wheat Agronomics
- Drying and Storage Options for Quality Markets
- How Variable Rate Irrigation fits with Wheat
- UKREC Update

Lunch Provided by:



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT  
Grain and Forage Center of Excellence



**UK** College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
Wheat Science

**CCA & Pesticide Credits: Pending**

**For additional information contact: Colette Laurent [claurent@uky.edu](mailto:claurent@uky.edu)**

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# ECONOMIC & POLICY UPDATE

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 4

Editors: Will Snell & Nicole Atherton



## 3 Tips for Farm Management During Rising Inflation

*Author(s): Jennifer Rogers*

*Published: April 28th, 2022*

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With input prices on the increase and so many things changing with our economy, it is important that producers think about how to manage during rising inflation. There is nothing that we can do to control the prices that we have to pay for products, we can only make sound management decisions about what we purchase and how we manage cash, and the cost of money that is borrowed.

### 1. Hold onto Cash

Many grain producers currently have more cash on hand than in the past. A phenomenal growing season last year, coupled with increasing prices for stored crops helped to create this cash influx. Many times when there is excess cash available, producers look for ways to use that cash to benefit them over the long run. Producers may be tempted to pay off some long-term debts or pay cash for large capital purchases. During this current environment, it may be wise to hold onto larger reserves of cash. The high input prices associated with the 2022 crop and the current uncertainty around getting the crop planted have caused much stress over this year's crop being able to cash flow. Therefore, cash reserves may be needed to offset any shortfalls in being able to pay back associated expenses. Having cash reserves will potentially prevent, or limit, the need to refinance operating expenses over a longer period.

### 2. Lock in Interest rates

Interest rates are on the rise as well. This typically means that any long-term debt that you have now, may be at a cheaper rate than you could borrow money for in the future. Therefore, there is less incentive to pay off debts at these low rates to turn around and need to borrow money at a higher rate. If you have term loans that are not at a fixed rate, or that will have to be refinanced for a balloon payment in the next few years, it may be wise to talk with your lender about locking in these rates now. Securing lower interest rates for the future could save your operation a substantial amount of interest cost over the life of the loan.



### 3. Operating Efficiently.

Operating efficiently is key during times of rising costs. We have already seen this to be vital in regards to fertilizer. All fertilizer costs have increased dramatically over the price paid for last year's crop. This has caused producers to be prudent about how much fertilizer they intend to put on the crop. Decisions have been made about the rate applied. Some producers have even decided to use some of the "excess" fertility that they have been banking over the past. Efficiency is also needed in labor resources. Good farm labor is becoming harder and harder to find and even more expensive to keep. Make sure you are using your labor to their best ability. As hard as the decision can be to eliminate positions, it may be necessary. Efficiency can also be applied to machinery. Not only does the size of the equipment make it efficient, but also the need for equipment. Evaluate your mechanical needs. If there are idle pieces of equipment sitting around the farm, you may need to look into selling them. This will provide an additional source of cash and also eliminate insurance and upkeep expenses. Your farm business is just that, a business. You should always be looking for ways to operate at a lower cost, while maintaining your profitability goals.

Operating and thriving during a time of rising inflation is difficult. We have all either lived through or heard the horror stories of farming in the 80's when inflation was high and interest rates were through the roof. Thankfully, we have the benefit of learning from that experience and can start making decisions now that will help manage the risk that we face.

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#### Recommended Citation Format:

Rogers, J. "[3 Tips for Farm Management During Rising Inflation](#)." *Economic and Policy Update* (22):4, Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Kentucky, April 28th, 2022.

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## May Classes

12:30 p.m. ET/11:30 a.m. CT

**May 4**

**How to Water Your Garden Using Rain Barrels**

**May 11**

**Protecting & Connecting Urban Tree Collections in a Changing Climate**

**May 18**

**How to Grow: Luffa Gourds**

**May 25**

**Drip Irrigation for Small Backyard Gardens**



[kentuckyhortnews.com](http://kentuckyhortnews.com)

Register here:

<https://tinyurl.com/22APRHWW>

# KENTUCKY SITES GIVEN 'GREEN LIGHT' TO REPOPULATE FLOCKS FOLLOWING HPAI CLEARANCE



KENTUCKY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE

3

MAY

Kentucky Avian Influenza sites given the 'all-clear'

Dr. Flynn encourages anyone involved with poultry production from a small backyard to a large commercial operation to continue observation of their flocks and to review their biosecurity activities to ensure the health of their birds. APHIS has materials about biosecurity, including videos, checklists, and a toolkit available as part of its Defend The Flock program.

In addition to practicing good biosecurity, all bird owners should prevent contact between their birds and wild birds. Kentucky bird owners should report sick birds or unusual bird deaths to state and federal officials, through USDA's toll-free number at 1-866-536-7593.

**Read entire article at <https://www.kyagr.com/ky-agnews/press-releases/2022/Kentucky-Avian-Influenza-sites-given-the-all-clear.html>**





# Strawberry Salsa

**1 tablespoon** olive oil

**2 tablespoons** white vinegar or white balsamic vinegar

**½ teaspoon** salt

**2 cups**, coarsely chopped fresh strawberries

**8** green onions, chopped

**2 cups** chopped cherry or grape tomatoes

**½ cup** chopped fresh cilantro

**1. Whisk** olive oil, vinegar, and salt in large bowl.

**2. Add** strawberries, green onions, tomatoes, and cilantro. Toss to coat.

**3. Cover** and chill for 1 hour.

**4. Serve** with tortilla or pita chips.

**Yield:** 7, ½ cup servings.

**Nutrition Analysis:** 40 calories; 2 g fat; 0 g saturated fat; 0 mg cholesterol; 170 mg sodium; 6 g carbohydrate; 1 g fiber; 4 g sugar; 1 g protein; 60% of vitamin C.

**Source:** [www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov](http://www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov)

Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand.



## Kentucky Strawberries

**SEASON:** May through June

**NUTRITION FACTS:** Strawberries are low in calories and high in nutrients. One cup strawberries contain 55 calories. Strawberries are a great source of vitamin C. They also contain vitamin A, iron, fiber, and folic acid. Folic Acid is especially important for childbearing women. When consumed in adequate amounts, it has been proven to prevent certain birth defects.

**SELECTION:** Choose fully ripened, bright red berries. Strawberries do not ripen after they have been picked. Berries should be plump and have a natural shine with bright green, fresh looking caps. Use strawberries as soon after picking as possible for the best flavor and highest nutritional value.

**STORAGE:** Store strawberries in the refrigerator, covered, unwashed, with the caps on. Do not crowd. If you have the space, gently spread the berries on a cookie sheet and cover with plastic wrap. Use berries within 2 to 3 days.

**HANDLING:** Handle strawberries gently. Never remove

the caps before washing. The cap prevents water from soaking into the berry, which lessens the flavor and changes the texture. To wash, cover berries in cold water and lift gently out of the water to drain. Dry by placing berries in a single layer on paper towels.

After washing, remove the caps if necessary. Give the cap a gentle twist or use the point of a sharp paring knife or pointed spoon.

Pat berries dry with paper towels before serving whole or sliced, fresh or cooked.

### STRAWBERRIES

#### Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences

University of Kentucky, Nutrition and Food Science students

March 2011

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. For more information, contact your county's Extension agent for Family and Consumer Sciences or visit [www.ca.uky.edu/fcs](http://www.ca.uky.edu/fcs).

COOPERATIVE  
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