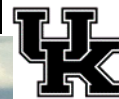


# Montgomery County Extension



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

### Cooperative Extension Service

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## February, 2023

**Greetings Farmers:**

# February/March 2023

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## Plan to Attend the 2023 National Farm Machinery Show – February 15

The Montgomery County Extension Office is attempting to get a group together to attend the National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville on



Wednesday, Feb. 15. The Farm Show has one of the largest varieties of agricultural products to be found anywhere. Exhibitor displays of the latest tractors, implements, combines, chemicals, seed and supplies will fill acres of indoor exhibit space and should be of interest to the whole family.

We plan to leave the Extension Office at 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 15, and return around 5:00 p.m. This

will give us about 5 ½ hours to see the show. We will be taking a 24 passenger Bus to Louisville. If you are interested in joining the group at no cost, please call the Extension Office at 498-8741 by Friday, Feb. 10, to reserve a space.

### 2023 PESTICIDE CARD TRAININGS

The Montgomery County Extension Service has 4 Pesticide Card Trainings scheduled for January and February. The first 2 will be held on Monday, January 30. One will begin at 10:00 am and will be held in the Montgomery County Extension Office the other will be held at 6:00 pm at the Montgomery County Extension Office. The last 2 will be held on Thursday, February 23. One will begin at 10:00 am and will be held in the Montgomery County Extension Office the other will be held at 6:00 pm at the Montgomery County Extension Office. This is the training that provides you with the card that is required at the farm stores to buy restricted-use pesticides for personal use.

Sincerely,

Gary Hamilton,  
Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent  
Montgomery County  
ghamilto@uky.edu



# FARM EQUIPMENT FOR RENT for MONTGOMERY COUNTY RESIDENTS

## SPRAYER

Owner: Montgomery County Cattlemen Association  
Contact Info: Daniel Spencer or Bryon Craycraft  
Location: 608 Airport Road, Mt Sterling KY 40353  
Description: 300 gallon boomless sprayer  
Rental Fee: \$25 per day  
Hookup Fee: \$20  
Deposit: None

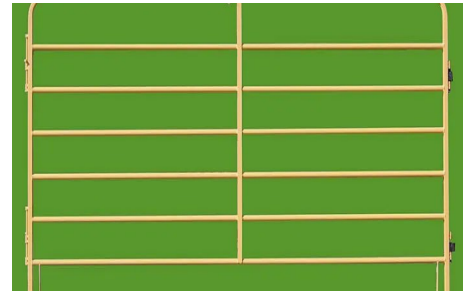


## NO TILL DRILL

Owner: Montgomery County Cattlemen; Montgomery County Extension Service; Soil Conservation District  
Contact Info: Daniel Spencer or Bryon Craycraft  
Location: 608 Airport Road, Mt Sterling KY 40353  
Description: 10 Foot Hay Buster 107 C No Till Drill  
Rental Fee: \$80 a day or \$8 per acre – minimum of \$80 per day  
Hookup Fee: \$30  
Deposit: **\$250 – refundable only if clean when returned**

## CATTLE HANDLING FACILITIES

Owner: Montgomery County Cattlemen Association  
Contact Info: Daniel Spencer or Bryon Craycraft  
Location: 608 Airport Road, Mt Sterling KY 40353  
Description: **Corral Panels**  
Rental Fee: \$20 per day  
Hookup Fee: \$20  
Deposit: None



Owner: Montgomery County Cattlemen Association  
Contact Info: Daniel Spencer or Bryon Craycraft  
Location: 608 Airport Road, Mt Sterling KY 40353  
Description: **Townsend Cattle Scales**  
Rental Fee: \$20 per day  
Hookup Fee: \$20  
Deposit: None

Owner: Montgomery County Cattlemen Association  
Contact Info: Daniel Spencer or Bryon Craycraft  
Location: 608 Airport Road, Mt Sterling KY 40353  
Description: **Townsend Squeeze Chute**  
Rental Fee: \$20 per day  
Hookup Fee: \$20  
Deposit: None



**Contact Daniel Spencer at 859-585-0697 or  
Byron Craycraft at 859-274-6796 for rental.**

## NINE REASONS TO TEST YOUR SOIL

Soil testing can tell you many things about your soil that can help you make informed decisions about fertilizer application, site selection for crops and so much more. It is an essential part of a successful agriculture or horticulture enterprise. Home gardens and lawns can also greatly benefit from soil testing.



With the wet pattern Kentucky has been in over the past year, soil testing is paramount to having a quality hay supply for next winter.

There's really no reason not to test your soil since your local office of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service makes it simple. So, let's get to it. Why should you test your soil?

1. Thanks to the Montgomery County Extension District Board, currently all soil tests are free to Montgomery County Residents.
2. Know the pH level of your soil. Soil experts will make different recommendations depending on the acidity or alkalinity of your soil and your intended use.
3. Save time and money. Having the proper levels of soil nutrients will help maximize economic yields. Soil testing also reduces the chance of over applying and over purchasing fertilizers.
4. It's good for the environment. Soil testing results in a more accurate application of fertilizers and that ultimately reduces runoff into waterways.
5. They are not expensive. Each county office may charge a nominal fee to cover soil analysis costs.
6. It is easy. Taking samples doesn't take a lot of time or skill, and your county agents can help you along the way.
7. Find out the fertility level of the soil. You gain knowledge about the soil condition and can make informed decisions about how to improve it.
8. Follow soil changes over time. Follow how conditions like drought, prolonged wet periods and other weather scenarios affect the soil.
9. Identify problem areas in your field or garden.

You'll need to take different samples for various land uses such as agricultural, fields, lawns, gardens, fruit trees, shrubs and flowers because they all have distinct fertility and pH requirements.

**SOIL TESTING PROBE:** If you would like to test your soil, whether it is a field, yard or a garden, we have soil testing right now that your local County Extension Board has decided to let us do for free for all Montgomery County residents. Now is the time to check and see if you need any lime or fertilizer on your fields or yard. We have soil probes that we will loan to you for taking your samples for a deposit and then we will give your deposit back when the probe is returned. Samples are free. Call the office for more information about either of these free services.



## REDUCE STRESS WITH GOOD RECORD KEEPING

Record keeping may not be every farmer's favorite activity, and probably not the reason someone chooses farming as a career. With time, patience and a commitment to get it done, it can make your financial life a lot less stressful.

Record keeping doesn't have to be difficult. It's a way to keep track of things about your operation that will help you make better long-term decisions. You can use a ledger book or a computer—whatever helps you maintain consistency. Software programs can make your data more meaningful.

Software has become more user-friendly over time, and while it may not make the record keeping process fun, it could help you see the overall picture of your operation. Some programs track purchases and how you use each item on a particular enterprise or field.

You'll be able to keep track of repair and maintenance records for specific farm equipment and produce balance sheets, income statements and cash flow budgets.

For many livestock operations, a good time to start keeping records is when the veterinarian comes to check your animals. Vets usually charge per head, so that data can help you develop a list of animals that need attention. You can use the same data to develop health histories of your animals, which will lead to more informed exams and diagnosis in the future.

Make record keeping a team effort for your family. Sit down and work on the records and budget together. Perhaps one person can read the information while another person types it into the software program or writes it in the ledger book. Also, if you do a little bit each day and don't save it all up for the end of the year, you won't become overwhelmed.

If you've done the work throughout the year, year-end procedures can feel more satisfying. You can generate year-end reports with a few simple clicks and not have to sort through stacks of bills lying around the home or office.

The University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment's Department of Agricultural Economics has several tools online that could help with budgeting and decision making. Visit <http://www.uky.edu/Ag/AgEcon/extbudgets.php> to see what is available. Sources: Steve Isaacs, UK Extension Agricultural Economist.

## FARM RECORD BOOKS AVAILABLE

For many years, the UK College of Agriculture has printed and made available an easy to keep but effective farm record book for farmers. We have a supply of the record books in the Montgomery County Extension Office. Cost is \$5.00.



## DECEASED ANIMAL REMOVAL



If you need to have dead farm animals removed from your Montgomery County Farm, Call Mike Hall at 606-359-4407. This program is sponsored by the Montgomery County Fiscal Court with partial funding from the Governor's Office of Agriculture Policy and approved by the Montgomery County Agriculture Development Council.



## FROST SEEDING AT A GLANCE

- ◆ Legumes are an essential part of sustainable grassland ecosystems.
- ◆ Overseeding may be required to maintain and thicken stands.
- ◆ Frost seeding is the simplest method for reintroducing clover back into pastures.
- ◆ Control broadleaf weeds prior to frost seeding.
- ◆ Soil test and apply any needed lime or fertilizer before frost seeding.
- ◆ Suppress the existing sod and reduce residue with hard grazing in the fall and winter.
- ◆ Choose well adapted varieties of red and white clover using the UK forage variety testing data.
- ◆ Calibrate seeder and check spread pattern.
- ◆ Broadcast 6-8 lb./A of red clover and 1-2 lb./A of white clover that has been inoculated in February or early March.
- ◆ Control post seeding competition by grazing pastures until clover seedlings become tall enough to be grazed off.
- ◆ Put pasture back into rotation once seedlings reach a height of 6-8 inches



## APPLE AND PEAR TREE GRAFTING WORKSHOP – March 9



The Montgomery County Extension Agriculture program is sponsoring an apple and pear tree grafting workshop on **Thursday, March 9th at 6 pm.** Anyone wanting to participate needs to register at the Extension Office by calling 498-8741. **Give your name and number of rootstock you would like for apple and or pear.**

**IMPORTANT:** you will need to collect one year old branches from the tree you want to perpetuate. It may be a family heirloom tree or a tree from which you really like the fruit. Water sprouts, those that grow straight up on larger branches, make excellent grafting material. Other one year material may be obtained by going to the tip end of branches and follow down the branch until you see a series of rings around the branch. Everything from those rings to the tip is one year old.



Once cut, place the cuttings in a bag in the refrigerator with a moist paper towel. Do not put them in a refrigerator that has apples in it. Be sure to get the material you plan to graft before it breaks dormancy. We will be using Malling 7A semi-dwarf rootstock. It is a very sturdy root-stock with some dwarfing capacity.

## KDA NUISANCE WEED SPRAYING PROGRAM SIGN-UPS

### FEBRUARY 1 TO FEBRUARY 28

This program offered by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture consists of weed spraying demonstration plots. The department will provide the sprayer and enough chemical for the treatment of 10 acres of agricultural land or 100 gallons of spot spraying mix to be used on agricultural land. The department's representative will demonstrate proper mixing and application techniques. A number of nuisance weeds can be treated under this program depending on the needs of the participant. This program is limited to broadleaf weeds.



The Broadcast Spraying demonstration plots consist of: 10 acres of agricultural land will be treated with chemical provided by the department. Application is performed with a two-wheeled trailer type sprayer equipped with boom less nozzles. If additional chemical is provided by the participant, an additional 10 acres can be treated.

The Spot Spraying demonstration plots consist of: 100 gallons of broadleaf chemical mix which is applied until sprayer is empty. Application is performed with a two-wheeled trailer type sprayer equipped with a handheld spray wand used by the tractor operator. If additional chemical is provided by the participant, an additional 100 gallons can be sprayed.

For each demonstration: The participant must provide water source. The participant must provide tractor and operator.

All chemical products must be labeled and the product label will be strictly followed. A maximum of 7 participants per county.

This program is designed to target weeds that have a negative impact on the participant's agricultural production.

There will be an annual online application period to participate in this program. Applications can be completed from February 1 to February 28 at [www.kyagr.com/consumer/nuisance-weed-spraying-program-application.aspx](http://www.kyagr.com/consumer/nuisance-weed-spraying-program-application.aspx)

## Buttercup Spray Program Signup

Was your pasture covered in small yellow flowers this spring? If so, you more than likely have the weed buttercup. If you did have pastures with severe buttercup problems, the Montgomery County Extension Service is planning a buttercup spray program for March and April of 2023. Call the Extension Office at 859-498-8741 and ask to be put on a list to be notified of the program details when they are completed.

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