

County Programming Survey for 2005 Kentucky Ag Advisory Council

County: _____ **Districts 1 & 2** _____

Thanks for taking the time to fill out this survey. Please have the completed survey to the Extension Area Contact Agent (see below) for the state Ag Advisory Council **before Monday January 10**. They will summarize them, send copies to Jimmy Henning and also prepare their delegates.

Questions? Call Jimmy Henning at 859 229 4989 (cell phone) over the Christmas Break or 859-257-1846 (office).

This survey has three purposes:

1. To define county programming needs in Forages, Livestock, Grain Crops, Horticulture/Organic Agriculture/Alternative Agriculture, and Forestry.
 2. To prepare the district Ag Advisory Council producer representatives to better represent the entire district.
 3. To provide future program direction and leadership for Kentucky. For example, Kentucky Farm Bureau has asked for a planning session with College leadership to talk about the direction for Kentucky agriculture. A good comprehensive document will help keep these types of discussions in focus.
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District 1

Northeast	Lyndall Harned
Licking River	David Appelman

District 2

Quicksand	Paul Sizemore
Wilderness Trail	Jeff Henderson

District 3

N. Kentucky	Don Sorrell
Louisville	Brittany Edelson

District 4

Bluegrass	Nick Carter
Ft Harrod	Dan Grigson

District 5

Lake Cumberland	Beth Wilson
Lincoln Trail	Rick Greenwell

District 6

Mammoth Cave	Kevin Lyons
Green River	Vicki Shadrick

District 7

Pennyrile	Curt Judy
Purchase	Lincoln Martin
	Doug Wilson

Overview of Importance of Commodities

Please check the box for the importance of the following commodities. Importance may be measured by dollar value of sales, number of acres, potential value or number of people involved.

Commodity	Rank in Districts 1 & 2			
Forages	1 (tie)			
Goats	2 (tie)			
Beef	1 (tie)			
Equine	3			
Grain Crops	6			
Commercial Vegetable Production	4			
Farmers Markets	2 (tie)			
Organic Agriculture	5			
Forestry	1 (tie)			

How do farmers prefer to receive information? Rank the following in order with 1 being most preferred:

- 1 (tie) - Newsletters (mailed to home)
- 2 - Newsletters (emailed)
- 3 - Internet/web page
- 1 (tie)- Meetings
- 4 - Satellite Service
- _____ Other (please specify) – telephone, one-on-one, radio, farm visits

Are farmers increasing their use of the UK College of Agriculture’s electronic newsletters (emailed) or WEB based resources (such as the Grain Page or Forage Page)?

Yes_7 + 1 area_ No_8__ Comment: not rapidly

Forages

1. What do farmers need in your county in regards to educational programs and research needs in the area of hay production, storage and utilization?

Management – forages	Local research/demos – hay quality, storage savings, reduced feed cost (2)
Basic forage info	Rotational grazing
Improved summer pasture management	Timely harvest
Matching hay to nutrient requirements	Hay quality
Forages for goats info	Utilizing reclaimed strip mine land
Plans for tobacco barn renovation for hay storage	Materials specific to Eastern KY
User-friendly variety publications	Wet soils
Hay storage cost-share training materials	Ration balancing
Video	Long-term storage
Master Forage program	Hay preservatives
GMOs	Industry news
Efficient production tips	Red clover persistence
Steep terrain solutions	

2. What do farmers need in your county in regards to educational programs and research needs in the area of pasture production and utilization?

Managing steep terrain (2)	Dealing with acid soils
Pasture for goats	Local research/demos
Rotational grazing (3)	Regional Grazing Schools – site specific
Management (2)	Persistent varieties
Stocking rates	Grazing corn, other forages
Water issues	Renovation
Forage improvement	Weed control
Liming	Year-round grazing publications
Variety trial info	Stockpiling
Modified intensive grazing	

3. What do the farmers need in you county in regards to educational programs and research needs in the area of non-traditional forages such as warm season grasses and grazing corn?

Local research/demos, follow-up info, corn and warm season grasses (2)	
Establishing/managing native grasses for wildlife	
Grazing demo	User-friendly variety trial info
Timelines for growth	Returns/enterprise budgets
Sericea lespedeza – hay & pasture research	Mine reclamation
On-farm research (UK & cooperators)	Background/beginners info

4. A Master Grazer Program was identified as a possible major educational emphasis by the 2004 Beef Summit. In you county, how much interest would there be in a Master Grazer Program?

- A. Little to None - 3
- B. Some - 8
- C. A Great Deal – 3 + 1 area
- D. Not A Good Idea

Livestock: Goats

1. How could Phase 1 Funds be better used to assist Goat Producers? (Be Specific)

District goat facilitators similar to KCA beef facilitators

Goat specialist

Incentives to follow health program

Equipment funding

CPH-45 type sale, market development (2)

Goat school

Regional processing facility

Herd health (2)

Publications

Steep terrain grazing

Winter feeding

Vaccination program

Handling facilities

2. What Major Areas of Goat Production should be addressed through County Extension Programs?

Rank your top 3 or 4, with a 1 being highest priority, 2 second, etc.

Marketing -2 (tie)

General Herd Health – 1

Genetics - 4

Parasite Control – 2 (tie)

Facilities – 5 (tie)

Management/Industry – 5 (tie)

Forages/Feeds - 3

Supplemental feeds and feeding – 5 (tie)

Other _____(please specify) _____

3. What major obstacles are goat producers faced with in the state of Kentucky? (Be Specific)

Lack of qualified expert advice from Extension, info, specialist (4)

Lack of processing facility (3) Updated publications – management, feed, parasites, etc

Marketing (4)

Herd health

Lack of experience – nutrition/
health Breeding stock to feeder market transition
Parasite control

Lack of state association

Lack of health products

4. How much Interest would there be in a Master Goat Herdsman Program?

A. Little to None – 1 + 1 area

B. Some - 2

C. A Great Deal - 7

D. Not A Good Idea

5. Other comments or needs regarding goats:

Need goat specialist – Eastern KY

Industry moving faster than UK is reacting

Many goat producers looking elsewhere for info

Livestock: Equine

Which of the following major areas relating to horses should be addressed through county extension programs? Rank your top 3 or 4, with a 1 being your highest priority, 2 second, etc.

Marketing – 3 (tie)	General Health – 2
Genetics _____	Parasite Control – 3 (tie)
Facilities _____	Management/Industry - 4
Forages - 1	Supplemental feeds and feeding – 3 (tie)
Other _____ (please specify) foot/leg health and care, owner responsibility	

What new can be done to meet the equine educational needs in your county?

Marketing network for horse industry – quality assurance, soundness of purchase

Agent training

Additional specialist

Phase I equine program

Additional Horse College offerings

Educational programs at fun activities

Master Horse program (interdisciplinary)

Livestock: Beef

1. Is the CPH45 program available in your county?

Yes – 6 + 1 area (majority)

No - 9

2. Do you have suggestions for the CPH45 program or any other value added program for beef cattle?

State beef packaging program – consumer-friendly, specific production info (grass-fed, organic)

Continue

Consistent grading

Ear tag complaints

Heifer development and sales

More promotion

Cull cow management

Increase participation

Marketing strategies

Agent and producer training to emulate

Standardize drug programs for all CPH

Green River Cattle

sale sites

Increase buyers

CPH premiums

3. Which of the following major areas relating to beef cattle should be addressed through county extension programs? Rank your top 3 or 4, with a 1 being your highest priority, 2 second, etc)

Marketing - 1	General Health – 3
Genetics - 4	Parasite Control - 6
Facilities – 7 (tie)	Management/Industry – 5
Forages - 2	Supplemental feeds and feeding – 7 (tie)
Other _____ (please specify) specialized marketing	

What new can be done to meet the educational needs in beef cattle for your county?

Regional winter program for those who can't/haven't attended MC

One day annual session in Lexington for MC grads

Work with producers on new ways to market cattle

Specialist at Quicksand (2)

Updated videos

Rotational grazing demos/info

Forage improvement

On-farm research > field days, hands-on
learning

Expand research

2005 Ag. Advisory Council Grain Production Questionnaire

1) Besides price and high fertilizer prices, what are farmers' biggest hindrances to profitability in corn production?

Mother Nature	Land availability, scale of production (2)
Johnson grass, bur cucumber	Equipment, land costs
Travel distance	Terrain, soil

2) Besides price, what are farmers' biggest hindrances to profitability in soybean production?

Equipment, land costs	Scale of production
Travel distance	Terrain/soil

3) Besides price, what are farmers' biggest hindrances to profitability in wheat production?

Wheat used only as cover crop

4) On which topics do you anticipate the greatest grain-related educational needs over the next 2-3 years? (What will be the biggest issues for grain producers?) Please rank from most important to least important (1 being the most important) Feel free to add additional topics.

1 - Soybean rust	2 (tie) Proper crop fertilization (inc. starters)
3 (tie) Herbicide resistance issues	4 - Proper use of manures/litter as fertilizer
3 (tie) Water quality issues	2 (tie) GMO-related issues
____ Worker Protection Issues	3 (tie) Integrated Pest Management
3 (tie) Specialty grain crops (edible soybeans, etc.)	
5 - Precision Agriculture	
____ Other:_____	____ Other:_____
____ Other:_____	____ Other:_____

5) We now know that Soybean Rust has reached the United States. If it causes serious crop losses here (as it has in South America), what changes do you anticipate in the cropping patterns and/or crop management practices of farmers?

Soybean acreage small – limited impact

7) What new can be done to meet the educational needs of your farmers in the area of grain marketing?

Weed control solutions	Full educational programs/area seminars
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Forestry

1. What are the top concerns landowners regarding forestry as an enterprise?

Marketing, selling standing timber, lack of understanding of timber value, price (6)

Long-term profitability of management

Fire

Proper harvest practices (2)

Theft

Landowner rights (2)

Not perceived as an enterprise

Lack of education/trust dealing with loggers

Financial emergency reserve

Lack of accountability of loggers

Absentee ownership

Environmental issues

Low grade timber

Management (2)

Liability

Taxes

2. Do you have commercial forestry companies or activity in your county?

Yes – 14, pallet mill Don't know - 1

If yes, what is your best understanding of their top concerns of forestry as an enterprise?

Supply of quality timber, hardwood (4)

Forest management

Regulations (3)

Availability of markets

Profitability

Increasing business costs

Fire

Green log/lumber market

No local source for cabinet maker's needs

Radical environmentalism

Diminishing log size

Lack of value-added products

3. What programs do you currently have in your county regarding forestry?

Field days

Timber management

Master Tree Farmer

Timber as potential tobacco replacement

Other educational programs

None (4)

Master Logger (2)

Special forestry products workshops

Incentive program

Tree seedlings

Portable band mills for loan

4. Are you planning forestry programs in the near future?

Yes – 3 No - 4

If so, what are they?

Managing forests for wildlife

Field days

Timber stand improvement

Management

5. Please list any areas of forestry that you feel may need more emphasis from UK.

Wood utilization incubators to increase Eastern KY value-added wood industry

Forest health issues

Phase I forestry model program – Eastern KY

– Sudden Oak Death, gypsy moth

4-H forestry judging

Smart timber marketing/harvesting

Collaboration (UK, KDF, Division of Water,

General forestry management courses

commercial foresters)

– landowners

Liability

Timber management (3)

Profitability

Management for wildlife

Long-term vs short-term issues

Management for landowners not relying on
forestry as primary farm income

Value-added opportunities

Thanks for your time.

Jimmy Henning
Assistant Director
Agriculture and Natural Resources
University of Kentucky

Questions? Call Jimmy Henning at 859 229 4989 (cell phone) over the Christmas Break or 859-257-1846 (office).