

## County Programming Survey for 2005 Kentucky Ag Advisory Council

County: \_\_\_\_\_ **Districts 3, 4, & 5** \_\_\_\_\_

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.

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

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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

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### District 2

Quicksand	Paul Sizemore
Wilderness Trail	Jeff Henderson

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### District 3

N. Kentucky	Don Sorrell
Louisville	Brittany Edelson

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### District 4

Bluegrass	Nick Carter
Ft Harrod	Dan Grigson

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### District 5

Lake Cumberland	Beth Wilson
Lincoln Trail	Rick Greenwell

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### District 6

Mammoth Cave	Kevin Lyons
Green River	Vicki Shadrick

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### 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 3, 4, & 5			
Forages	1 (tie)			
Goats	6			
Beef	1 (tie)			
Equine	2			
Grain Crops	4			
Commercial Vegetable Production	3			
Farmers Markets	5			
Organic Agriculture	8			
Forestry	7			

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

- 1 - Newsletters (mailed to home)
- 3 - Newsletters (emailed)
- 4 - Internet/web page
- 2 - Meetings
- 5 - Satellite Service

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (please specify) newspaper (5), farm visit (3), one-on-one (2), field days (1)

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\_32\_ No\_\_7\_\_ Comments: small %, slowly, undecided (2)

## 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?

Hay quality (12)	Management
Storage (options, economics) (7)	Haylage demos/info
Variety testing, info (5)	Roundup Ready alfalfa demos
Marketing (4)	Hay feeding management demos, info
Hay testing (4)	Outside storage
Economics/budgets - storing/feeding (4)	Feeding pads
Fertilization (3)	Storage videos
Round bale storage (2)	Producing hay under adverse weather conditions
MC-type programs (2)	Hay sales to horse markets
Storage facility plans (2)	Storage efficiency
Ration balancing (computer program) (2)	Seeding techniques
Bale wrapper, in-line wrapper, cost/benefit (2)	Weed control
Variety performance (marginal, wet soils) (2)	No-till alfalfa – fall seedings
Legumes	Produce/buy decisions
Lime	Curing/storage of large square baled alfalfa
Feeding round bales	Feeding lower quality hay
Extend grazing, reduce hay	Soil testing

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

Grazing (rotational, intensive, managed, extended, alfalfa) (21)	Economics – pasture improvement (2)
Fertilization (4)	Variety info (2)
Legumes (persistence, renovation, improved clover) (4)	Lime
Weed control (3)	Economics
Water sources, distribution (2)	Local Grazing Schools
	Management for beef, dairy, goats
	Warm season grasses

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?

Establishment (inc. hillside) (5)	Grazing corn publication
Economics, profitability (4)	Suitability
Grazing demos, info (corn, warm season annuals) (4)	Demonstrations
General publications (2)	Videos
Fact sheets (2)	Turnips, small grains
Available funding	Eastern gamma grass demo
Utilization	Variety info
Nutritional value	Bermudagrass
Annual crop info	Alternatives to fescue

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 - 1
- B. Some - 14
- C. A Great Deal – 19 + 1 area
- D. Not A Good Idea

Livestock: Goats

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

Marketing (niche, CPH-like, ethnic) (12)	Fund vaccines, wormers
Processing facility (3)	Make program more specific
Improved forages (2)	Mandatory records
Rotational grazing (2)	Require recommended practices
Genetics	Eliminate tobacco tie
Ease fencing guidelines	Fund another specialist

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 - 1	General Herd Health – 2 (tie)
Genetics - 5	Parasite Control - 3
Facilities - 6	Management/Industry – 2 (tie)
Forages/Feeds - 4	Supplemental feeds and feeding - 7
Other _____(please specify)	predator control, economics

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

Marketing (19)	Processing facility
Profitability (7)	Year-round production
Parasites (6)	Production costs
Herd health (3)	Past experiences
Lack of experience (3)	Feeds instead of forages
Image (2)	Management
Health, nutrition education (2)	Limited space
Inferior breeding animals (2)	

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

A. Little to None - 9  
B. Some - 24  
C. A Great Deal - 9  
D. Not A Good Idea - 1

5. Other comments or needs regarding goats:

Enterprise budgets needed	Agent training
Profitability info needed	Enthusiasm declining
Little interest	Meetings > 5 pm for part-time farmers
Difficult clientele	Another specialist or 1 – 2 associates
Health problems because confined to too small areas	

## 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	General Health - 2
Genetics - 5 (tie)	Parasite Control - 6
Facilities - 7	Management/Industry - 5 (tie)
Forages - 1	Supplemental feeds and feeding - 4
Other _____ (please specify)	EID, weed management

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

Horse College (5)	Weed management
Master Horse program (> 1 night, < MC) (4)	Forage school
Newsletter (electronic, for agents) (2)	Program for agents with limited knowledge of horses
Hobby/pleasure/recreational programs, nutrition/health info (2)	Promote horse shows
Public education/industry importance (2)	Equine publications
Update meetings/field days	cd (?) meetings

## Livestock: Beef

1. Is the CPH45 program available in your county?

Yes - 33      No - 2

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

Promotion, economic benefits, cost/return, CPH vs non-CPH (4)	Improved grading/sorting
Standard rules - all sites (3)	Sell CPH calves on regular sale day- farmers see results
Carcass data (3)	Info on modified live booster requirements, esp. when using a different company product
Fewer sales (2)	Too many changes
Better CES/KBN/KDA working relationship (2)	Publications - weaning, marketing feeder calves
Develop something for all breeds/genetic-based value-added (2)	Stockyard near Louisville
Convince producers to hold for CPH when prices high, ^ participation (2)	Take agents out of tagging
EID mandatory	CPH PowerPoint presentations
	Convince producers this is what industry will require

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 - 4 (tie)	General Health - 4 (tie)
Genetics - 2	Parasite Control - 3
Facilities - 5	Management/Industry - 6
Forages - 1	Supplemental feeds and feeding - 7
Other _____ (please specify)	CPH-45, ration balancing, small farm profitability

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

MC – continue, follow-up, access (11)	Newsletter
Beginners beef course	EID info
(pre-MC, ~3 sessions) (3)	Multi-county evening field days
Ration balancing program (3)	Quality hay
Grazing, pasture improvement (3)	Hay storage
Value-added programs (eg, KBN) (2)	Brood cow nutrition
Lower costs	Beef/forage systems
Feed/mineral testing program	Beef media materials
On-farm demos	New product demos, samples
Weaning publication	Group marketing/purchasing
Cow College	

### 2005 Ag. Advisory Council Grain Production Questionnaire

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

Land availability (8)	Lack of scouting experience
Input costs (5)	Planter accuracy
Marketing (3)	Distance to market
Land productivity, fertility management,	Wet weather, floods
soil testing (3)	Yields
Timeliness, planting date (2)	Weed control
Variety selection (2)	New product proliferation
Niche markets	Plant populations
Value-added opportunities	Poor stands
Storage facilities	

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

Land availability (8)	Lack of scouting experience
Soybean rust, diseases (3)	Quality
Input costs (3)	Marketing
Variety selection (3)	Wet weather, floods
Equipment (2)	Weed control
Plant population (2)	Planting date
Fertility (2)	Management
Storage facilities	Distance to market

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

Disease (4)	Fertility
Land availability (3)	Pest control
Marketing (2)	Yield
Input costs (2)	Quality
Equipment	Management
Weather	

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   | 3 - Proper crop fertilization (inc. starters)      |
| 2 - Herbicide resistance issues  | 5 (tie) Proper use of manures/litter as fertilizer |
| 5 (tie) Water quality issues   | 4 - GMO-related issues                             |
| 8 - Worker Protection Issues   | 6 - Integrated Pest Management                     |
| 7 - Specialty grain crops (edible soybeans,etc.)                               |  |
| 5 (tie) Precision Agriculture  |  |
| ___ Other: pest control, future tobacco profitability, marketing, local market |  |

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?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ^ Corn (7)                              | Continued production, bet on high prices |
| v Soybeans (4)                          | None                                     |
| Fungicides, profitability (4)           | ^ Sprayer purchases                      |
| ^ Scouting, knowledge (ID, control) (2) | ^ Rotation                               |
| v Double-crop soybeans                  | Alternative crops – bottoms, late season |
| IPM                                     |  |

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

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Winter meetings – budgets, variety selection; general educational programs; agent training; regional (Central KY) field day; regional meetings; area meetings (7) |                                       |
| Marketing (2)   | Exploit local poultry industry market |
| Tobacco farmers switching to grain  | Monitoring field moisture             |
| Value-added   | Soybean rust scouting demo            |
| UK web site updates   | Fungicide spray demos                 |
| Livestock consumption   | Variety info                          |
| Double-crop soybeans economic info  |                                       |

## Horticulture, Organic Agriculture and Alternative Agriculture

1. In your county, approximately how many growers of commercial fruits and vegetables are there and which crops have the most acreage devoted to them (list top 3 vegetables and top 3 fruits)?

50, 2, 30, 6, 3, 5, >1, 5, 15-20, 4, 20, ? (District) 90-100 (Area) 90-100 (Area) 60 (Area)  
 No response (Area)  
 Tomatoes, corn, peppers  
 Apples, strawberries, grapes

2. How many commercial greenhouse operations are there in your county?

10-15, 4, 13, 3, 2 (Area) 1, 1, >10, 4, 3, >20 (Area) 27+ (Area) 18 (Area) 11 (Area)  
 No response (Area)

3. Do you have a strong farmers' market? How many members?

Yes – 4 Fair – 1 52, 30, 18, 6, 15 (Area)  
 No – 2 Somewhat strong (20) Yes (20) Moderate (20) Yes – 4 (30-40) (Area)  
 Yes – 3 No – 2 44+ (Area)  
 Yes – 3 Fair – 3 110 (Area)  
 Yes – 3 No – 3 Several strong on-farm markets (Area)  
 No response (Area)

4. Does anyone in your county currently raise nursery products (trees and shrubs) for wholesale? Yes – 20 No - 8

For retail? Yes – 24 No - 8

5. Does your county have any current growers of organic products?

Yes – 17 No - 9

If not, are there any growers who might try organic production if more information and help were available?

Yes – 3 No – 6 Limited, maybe - 5

6. List any other enterprises that growers are producing that may not fit well under any of the previous 5 questions (e.g. mushrooms, herbs, cut flowers, worms, rabbits, honey, etc).

Honey (14)	Organic soybeans
Cut flowers (10)	Sorghum
Mushrooms (7)	Organic vegetables
Herbs (7)	Specialty crops
Rabbits (5)	Home gardens
Chickens, pastured poultry,	Wine
game/specialty birds (3)	Agritourism
Mums (3)	Cut stems
Worms (2)	Christmas trees
Grapes (2)	Certified/community kitchen
Beef jerky	Ginseng
Gourds	Ornamentals
Organic forage	
Comment: small scale/hobby farm requests increasing	

## Forestry

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

Value, price, marketing (16)	Time until harvest/profit (3)
Reputable loggers (7)	Taxes
Management (4)	Overcutting forest
Water quality, environmentally friendly harvest, property damage (3)	Regulations

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

Yes – 11      No – 9      (1 area – 5-6 total)

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

Quality, quantity (9)	Pleasing landowner and making profit
Regulations (4)	Contracting with loggers/growers
Alternative markets	Boundary conflicts
Keeping landowners ignorant of timber value	

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

Field days (6)	Support KY Shiitake Growers Association
Master Logger (2)	Newsletter articles
Master Tree Farmer	KDF/KDA winter meeting
Newspaper articles	Timber stand improvement
Landowner rights workshop	

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

Yes – 2      No – 19      Maybe - 3

If so, what are they?

White oak – barrel industry	Small woodlot management
Logs for shiitake production	Environmental regulations
Conservation management	Replanting
Timber stand improvement	Re-establishing correct forest tree mix
Management	Field days
Value-added	

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

Marketing (4)	Timber management
Alternative forest products, agroforestry, non-timber uses of woodland (3)	Phase I program
Value of standing timber (2)	Wood mizer mill out in the state
Walnut trees for lumber	Contacting agencies that assist with marketing, management
Working with loggers	Don't duplicate (good) Division of Forestry programs
Agent training	
Someone to teach log & lumber grading	

Thanks for your time.

Jimmy Henning  
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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).