

County Programming Survey for 2005 Kentucky Ag Advisory Council

County: _____ **District 4** _____

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 District 4			
Forages	1			
Goats	6			
Beef	2			
Equine	3			
Grain Crops	5			
Commercial Vegetable Production	4 (tie)			
Farmers Markets	4 (tie)			
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) one-on-one, farm visits, newspaper

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 9 No 3 ? 1

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?

Variety testing (2)	New equipment demos
Hay quality (2)	New ration balancing program
Storage options/economics (2)	Hay storage videos
Haylage demos/info	Producing hay under adverse weather conditions
Roundup Ready alfalfa demos	Hay sales to horse markets
Hay feeding management demos/info	Variety performance on marginal soils
Updated hay barn design plans	Marketing
Outside storage	Forages for wet soils
Feeding pads	Storage efficiency
Hay testing	Bale, in-line wrapper info

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

Rotational grazing (2)	Fertilization
Local Grazing Schools	Weed control
Economics of pasture improvement	Management for beef, dairy, goats
Managing legumes for persistence	

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?

Fact sheets (2)	Corn, turnips, small grains
Grazing info	Quicker establishment – warm season grasses
Demos	Eastern gamma grass demo
Economics	Videos

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
- B. Some - 7
- C. A Great Deal - 6
- D. Not A Good Idea

Livestock: Goats

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

Regional processing facility (2)

Ease fencing guidelines

Marketing

Fund vaccines, wormers

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 - 3

Genetics - 6 (tie)

Parasite Control - 2

Facilities - 6 (tie)

Management/Industry - 5

Forages/Feeds - 4

Supplemental feeds and feeding - 7

Other _____ (please specify) _____

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

Marketing (3)

Lack of experience

Profitability (3)

Past experiences

Parasites

Health problems

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

A. Little to None - 4

B. Some - 5

C. A Great Deal - 4

D. Not A Good Idea

5. Other comments or needs regarding goats:

Enterprise budgets needed

Profitability info

Little interest

Difficult clientele

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 - 7	Parasite Control - 8
Facilities - 5	Management/Industry - 6
Forages - 1	Supplemental feeds and feeding - 4
Other _____ (please specify) _____	

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

Horse College (2)	Importance of horse industry
Master Horse	Update meetings/field days
Hobby/pleasure programs	

Livestock: Beef

1. Is the CPH45 program available in your county?

Yes – 13 No - 0

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

Show economic benefits	Cost/return
Better relationship – UK, KDA, KBN	Improve grading/sorting
Carcass results	Increase county participation

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

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

Continue MC (2)	Ration balancing
Pasture improvement	Cow College
Quality hay	Beef media materials
Hay storage	Beef newsletter
Brood cow nutrition	Updates for MC grads
Beef/forage systems	New product demos, samples
EID info	

2005 Ag. Advisory Council Grain Production Questionnaire

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

Marketing (2)	Fertility management
Small acreage (2)	Weed control
Variety selection	New product proliferation
Wet weather/floods	Input costs
Yields	Planting date

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

Varieties (2)	Quality
Wet weather/floods	Fertility management
Small acreage	Plant population
Weed control	Planting date
Diseases	

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

Disease	Quality
Fertility management	Diseases
Yield	

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.

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

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	^ID and control knowledge
vSoybeans	

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

Agent training	Regional meetings
Regional (Central KY) field day	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)?

90-100; tomatoes, corn, beans; strawberries, apples, melons (area)

90-100; tomatoes, peppers, corn; apples, blackberries, strawberries (area)

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

27+ (area); 18 (area)

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

Yes – 6 No – 2 Fair – 3 44+ (area); 110 (area)

4. Does anyone in your county currently raise nursery products (trees and shrubs) for wholesale? Yes – 7 No - 2

For retail? Yes – 10 No - 2

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

Yes – 6 No – 1 8-10 growers (area)

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

Limited (2) (more home use)

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 (2)

Ginseng

Mums (2)

Pastured poultry

Herbs (2)

Rabbits

Mushrooms

Sorghum

Cut flowers

Forestry

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

Fair value estimates (2)	Taxes
Time to harvest/profit	Timber management
Regulations	Reputable loggers

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

Yes – 2 No – 5 5-6 (area)

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

Regulations (2)	Pleasing landowners and making profits
Good timber stands	Supply

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

KDF/KDA winter meeting	Woodland field day
Workshop on landowners' rights	Forestry info in newsletter

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

No – 5 Maybe - 2

If so, what are they?

Small woodlot management meeting

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

Contacting agencies that assist with marketing/management	
Don't duplicate (good) KY Division of Forestry programs	
Agroforestry	Value of standing timber
Timber management	Alternative forest products

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).