

## County Programming Survey for 2005 Kentucky Ag Advisory Council

County: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

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



## 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 (15)	Lime
Storage (options, economics) (10)	Feeding round bales
Variety testing, info (7)	Extend grazing, reduce hay
Hay testing (cheaper) (5)	Basic forage info
Marketing (4)	Improved summer pasture management
Economics/budgets storing/feeding (4)	Matching hay to nutrient requirements
Fertilization (4)	Forages for goats info
Round bale storage (2)	Plans for tobacco barn renovation for hay storage
MC-type programs (3)	Local research/demos – hay quality, storage savings, reduced feed cost (2)
Storage facility plans (2)	Rotational grazing
Ration balancing (computer program) (3)	Utilizing reclaimed strip mine land
Bale wrapper, in-line wrapper, cost/benefit (2)	Materials specific to Eastern KY
Variety performance (marginal, wet soils) (3)	Haylage demos/info
Legumes (persistence) (3)	Roundup-Ready alfalfa demos
Management (2)	Hay feeding management demos/info
Timely harvest (2)	Outside storage
Baled silage (2)	Feeding pads
Weed control (2)	Soil testing
Storage videos	Hay judging
Producing hay under adverse weather conditions	Phase I storage program
Hay sales to horse markets	Haylage specialist
Storage efficiency	Friendly endophyte fescue
Seeding techniques	New/improved orchardgrass/timothy
No-till alfalfa – fall seedings	Nutritive value
Produce/buy decisions	Yield
Curing/storage of large square baled alfalfa	Disease resistance
Feeding lower quality hay	User-friendly variety publications
Hay storage cost-share training materials	Video
GMOs	Efficient production tips
Steep terrain solutions	Long-term storage
Hay preservatives	Industry news

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 (managed, rotational, intense, extended, alfalfa) (27)	Managing steep terrain (2)
Legumes (persistence, renovation, improved clovers) (8)	Pasture for goats
Fertilization (6)	Local research, demos
Pasture management (4)	Grazing corn, other forages
Variety selection, info (4)	Economics
More Grazing Schools, site specific (3)	Warm season grasses
Weed control (3)	Yield
Economics, pasture improvement (2)	Nutritive value
Stocking rates	Friendly endophyte fescue
Dealing with acid soils	New/improved orchardgrass/timothy
Persistent varieties	Water sources, distribution
Forage improvement	Lime (2)
Stockpiling	Management for beef, dairy, goats
	Year-round grazing publications

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?

Grazing demos/research, info (corn, warm season grasses and annuals) (8)	Available funding
Establishment (inc. hillside) (5)	Utilization
Economics, profitability (5)	Annual crop info
Nutritional value (3)	County research
Suitability, where they fit, practical benefits (3)	Expand corn silage trials
Bermudagrass (3)	Maintenance
General publications (2)	Grazing corn publication
Fact sheets (2)	Demonstrations
Variety info (2)	Videos
Establishing/maintaining native grasses for wildlife, wildlife interest (2)	Turnips, small grains
User-friendly variety publications	Eastern gamma grass demo
Sericea lespedeza – hay & pasture research	Alternatives to fescue
Background/beginners' info	Grazing schedules
	Timelines for growth
	Mine reclamation

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 - 5
- B. Some - 39
- C. A Great Deal – 26 + 2 areas
- D. Not A Good Idea

Livestock: Goats

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

Marketing/graded sales (niche, CPH-like, ethnic) (16)	Incentives to follow health program (3)
Processing facility (4)	Building variable herd sizes/economies of scale
Improved forages (2)	KY-based research
Rotational grazing (2)	Fund vaccines, wormers (2)
Ease fencing guidelines, fencing (2)	Make program more specific
Fund another specialist (2)	Mandatory records
Genetics	Require recommended practices
District goat facilitators similar to KCA beef facilitators	Eliminate tobacco tie
Equipment funding	Publications similar to KY Beef Book (2)
Goat school	Better handling equipment
Registered animals	Herd upgrades
Winter feeding	Facilities (2)
	Steep terrain grazing

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
Genetics - 6	Parasite Control - 3
Facilities - 7	Management/Industry - 5
Forages/Feeds - 4	Supplemental feeds and feeding - 8
Other_____ (please specify) predator control, economics	

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

Marketing (26)	Start-up funds
Profitability (7)	Uniting to produce uniform product (2)
Parasites (8)	Year-round production
Herd health (5)	Production costs
Lack of experience (3)	Past experiences
Production info (3)	Feeds instead of forages
Processing facility (4)	Management
Image (2)	Limited space
Health, nutrition education (3)	Lack of qualified expert advice from Extension, specialist (2)
Inferior breeding animals (2)	Updated publications - management, feed, parasites, etc
Breeding stock to feeder market transition	Lack of health products

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

- A. Little to None - 16 + 1 area
- B. Some - 44
- C. A Great Deal - 18
- D. Not A Good Idea - 1

5. Other comments or needs regarding goats:

Another specialist or 1-2 associates

(Eastern KY) (2)

Little interest/enthusiasm declining (2)

Enterprise budgets needed

Profitability info needed

Difficult clientele

Health problems because confined

to too small areas

Agent training

Meetings > 5 pm for part-time farmers

Industry moving faster than UK is reacting

Many producers looking elsewhere for info

Producers spending too much on purebred stock

Advantages of multi-species grazing/  
production systems

Production/management manual for producers

## 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 – 4 (tie)	General Health - 2
Genetics – 4 (tie)	Parasite Control - 6
Facilities - 7	Management/Industry - 5
Forages - 1	Supplemental feeds and feeding - 3
Other _____ (please specify) EID, weed management, foot/leg health & care, owner responsibility	

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

Horse College (6)	Weed management
Master Horse program (>1 night, <MC) (6)	Forage school
Newsletter (electronic, for agents) (3)	Program for agents with limited knowledge of horses, agent training (2)
Hobby/pleasure/recreational programs, nutrition/health info (2)	Promote horse shows
Public education/industry importance (2)	Equine publications
Update meetings/field days	cd (?) meetings
Marketing network for horse industry – quality assurance, soundness of purchase	Continue horse production short courses
Phase I equine program	KEEP – CES collaboration
Educational programs at fun activities	UK equine specialist (Western KY), additional specialist (2)

## Livestock: Beef

1. Is the CPH45 program available in your county?

Yes – 39 + 2 districts + 1 area (majority)      No - 12

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 (6)	Continue
Standard rules – all sites (4)	EID mandatory
Carcass data (3)	State packaging program – consumer friendly, specific production info (grass-fed, organic, etc)
Convince producers to hold for CPH when prices high, ^ participation (4)	Emphasize importance of increased gain, not just price
Develop something for all breeds/genetic-based value-added (2)	Sell CPH calves on regular sale day - farmers see results
Fewer sales (2)	Info on modified live booster requirements, esp. when using a different company product
Better CES/KBN/KDA working relationship (2)	Too many changes
Improved grading/sorting, group by breed not color (3)	Publications – weaning, marketing feeder calves
Take agents out of tagging, ear tag complaints (2)	Stockyard near Louisville
CPH PowerPoint presentations	Drop no scurs rule
Convince producers this is what industry will require	Realize special sales promoted by pharmaceutical companies are in direct competition with CPH-45
More buyers (2)	Agent & producer training to emulate Green River Cattle
Closer sales	Marketing strategies
Cull cow management	
Heifer development and sales	

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 - 3	General Health - 4
Genetics - 2	Parasite Control – 5 (limited responses)
Facilities - 8	Management/Industry - 6
Forages - 1	Supplemental feeds and feeding - 7
Other _____ (please specify) reproduction, CPH-45, ration balancing, small farm profitability, specialized marketing	

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

MC – continue, follow-up, access (11)

Beginners beef course (pre-MC,  
~3 sessions) (3)

Ration balancing program (3)

Grazing, pasture improvement (5)

Statewide newsletter (3)

Value-added programs (eg, KBN) (2)

Lower costs

Feed/mineral testing program

On-farm demos (2)

Weaning publication

Cow College

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)

Animal ID

Correspondence course – producers

Updated videos

Keep providing PowerPoints, calendars, pocket  
record books

Emphasize consumer demands as driving force  
behind what industry wants from  
producers

EID info

Multi-county evening field days

Quality hay

Hay storage

Brood cow nutrition

Beef/forage systems

Beef media materials

New product demos, samples

Group marketing/purchasing

Continue cost-share programs

Forage production

Hay preservation

Hay testing

Management goals

More agent access to Grazing School

PowerPoints

## 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 (11)	Niche markets
Input costs (7)	Value-added opportunities
Marketing (6)	Storage facilities
Land productivity, fertility management, Soil testing (3)	Overfertilization
Land rental (3)	Soil compaction
Timeliness, planting date (3)	Lack of scouting experience
Weather, wet weather, floods (3)	Planter accuracy
Variety selection (2)	Distance to market
Seed costs/tech fees (2)	Weed control
Yields (2)	New product proliferation
Poor stands	Plant populations
Gray leaf spot	Disease, pests in corn-after-corn
Terrain/soil	Travel distance
	Johnson grass, bur cucumber

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

Land availability (10)	Yield (2)
Soybean rust, diseases (4)	Weather, wet weather, floods (2)
Input costs (5)	Planting date (2)
Marketing (4)	Storage facilities
Variety selection (3)	Lack of scouting experience
Fertility (3)	Quality
Equipment (2)	Weed control
Plant population (2)	Management
Land rental (2)	Distance to market
Seed cost/tech fees (2)	Fungicides
Travel distance	Terrain/soil

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

Disease/head scab (6)	Fertility
Marketing (5)	Quality
Land availability (4)	Poorly-drained soils
Yield (3)	Seed costs
Production costs (3)	Whether to no-till
Weather (2)	Equipment
Land rental	Management
Late planting	Pest control
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   | 3 - Proper crop fertilization (inc. starters)  |
| 2 - Herbicide resistance issues  | 6 - Proper use of manures/litter as fertilizer |
| 5 - Water quality issues   | 4 - GMO-related issues                         |
| 9 - Worker Protection Issues   | 7 (tie) Integrated Pest Management             |
| 8 - Specialty grain crops (edible soybeans, etc.)                          | 7 (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 (11)   | IPM                                      |
| Fungicides, profitability (6)                       | ^ Sentinel rows on-farm                  |
| v Soybeans (5)                                      | Continued production, bet on high prices |
| ^ Scouting, knowledge (ID, control) (3)             | None                                     |
| v Double-crop soybeans                              | ^ Rotation                               |
| Alternative crops – bottoms, late season, milo (3)  | ^ Precision agriculture                  |
| ^ Sprayer purchases, farmers doing own spraying (2) | 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?

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Marketing (keep Riggins/marketing specialist, basic market training for young and small/mid-sized producers, marketing options, risk management, sell some when profitable) (10) |                                       |
| Winter meetings – budgets, variety selection; general educational programs; agent training; regional (Central KY) field day; regional meetings; area meetings (8)                |                                       |
| Tobacco farmers switching to grain   | Exploit local poultry industry market |
| Value-added  | Monitoring field moisture             |
| UK web site updates  | Soybean rust scouting demo            |
| Livestock consumption  | Fungicide spray demos                 |
| Double-crop soybeans economic info   | Variety info                          |
| Program for those who “don’t like meetings”  | Current info/rapid delivery           |
| Weed control   |                                       |

## 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)?

3-30, avg 12 (area); none, 10-15 (area); 4-300 (area); no response (area);  
50, 2, 30, 6, 3, 5, >1, 15-20, 4, 20, ? (district); 90-100 (area); 90-100 (area);  
60 (area); no response (area); 2, apples (70 acres) (area); <15 any county (area);  
3 large producers, 20, 30 acres vegetables (district)

Tomatoes, corn, peppers

Apples, strawberries, blueberries

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

Avg 2/county (area); 2, 10, 5 (area); 10-15, 4, 13, 3, 2 (area); 1, 1, >10, 4, 3, >20, (area);  
27+ (area); 18 (area); 11 (area); no response (area); 23 (area); 32 (area); 10/county (area);  
1, 10, 3 (area); 1, 7, 2, none (area); 2-4/county (area)

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

2 not very strong (area); yes-2 no-1, 10-15 (area); 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);  
yes-2, no-1, 27,12 (area); no-3, moderate-4, avg 15, very strong-1, regional market 33, county  
market 21 (area); not strong, yes-2, no-3 (area); no-3 (area); most-yes, <10 (area); yes, 4-5,  
no, tried and trying again, yes, very strong, 45-50 peak, yes, 8 plus other part-time vendors (area)

4. Does anyone in your county currently raise nursery products (trees and shrubs) for

wholesale? Yes – 33 No - 20

For retail? Yes – 46 No - 16

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

Yes – 32 + 1 area – most do, small scale No – 19 + 1 area

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

Yes – 9 + 1, if profitable

No – 14 + 1 area

Limited, maybe, possibly - 7

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 (21)

Cut flowers (13)

Herbs (11)

Mushrooms (11)

Rabbits (9)

Chickens, pastured poultry, game/specialty  
birds (4)

Mums (5)

Worms (4)

Bedding plants (4)

Sorghum (4)

Grapes (2)

Gourds (3)

Agritourism (2)

Blackberries

Crops for residential decoration

Comment: small scale/hobby farm requests increasing

Beef jerky

Organic forage, soybeans, vegetables

Specialty crops

Home gardens

Wine

Cut stems

Christmas trees

Certified/community kitchen

Ginseng

Ornamentals

Aquaculture

Garden plants

Value-added (HB 391)

Pumpkins

Strawberries

## Forestry

1. What are the top concerns landowners regarding forestry as an enterprise?  
Marketing, selling standing timber, lack of understanding of timber value, price (26)  
Reputable loggers, lack of education/trust dealing with loggers (8)  
Environmental issues (6) Over cutting forest  
Management (8) Theft  
Long-term profitability of management (4) Not perceived as an enterprise  
Regulations (4) Financial emergency reserve  
Fire (2) Absentee ownership  
Proper harvest practices Low grade timber  
Landowner rights (2) Taxes (2)  
Lack of accountability of loggers Liability

2. Do you have commercial forestry companies or activity in your county?  
Yes – 42 pallet mill, a few sawmills No - 12

- If yes, what is your best understanding of their top concerns of forestry as an enterprise?  
Quality, quantity (15) Availability of markets (2)  
Regulations (9) Increasing business costs  
Pleasing landowner and making profit (2) Contracting with loggers/growers  
Alternative markets Boundary conflicts  
Keeping landowners ignorant of timber value Fire  
Forest management Master Logger requirements  
Radical environmentalism Diminishing log size  
No local source for cabinet maker's needs Lack of value-added products

3. What programs do you currently have in your county regarding forestry?  
Field days (10) Support KY Shiitake Growers Association  
Master Logger (6) Newsletter articles  
Master Tree Farmer (2) KDF/KDA winter meeting  
Newspaper articles Timber stand improvement  
Landowner rights workshop Timber management  
Other educational programs Timber as potential tobacco replacement  
None (4) "What is Forestry?"  
Tree seedlings Special forestry products workshops  
Incentive program Portable band mills for loan

4. Are you planning forestry programs in the near future?  
Yes – 7 No – 28 Maybe - 3

- If so, what are they?  
Field days (3) Value-added  
Master Logger (2) Small woodlot management  
White oak – barrel industry Environmental regulations  
Logs for shiitake production Replanting  
Conservation management Re-establishing correct forest tree mix  
Timber stand improvement (2) Managing forests for wildlife  
Management (2)

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

Marketing (6)	Someone to teach log and lumber grading
Alternative forest products, agroforestry, non-timber uses of woodland (3)	County logger registration
Value of standing timber (2)	Forest health issues – Sudden Oak Death, gypsy moth
Timber management (4)	Phase I program
Contacting agencies that assist with marketing, management (2)	Wood mizer mill out in the state
Wildlife habitat (2)	Don't duplicate (good) Division of Forestry programs
Walnut trees for lumber	General forestry management courses - landowners
Working with loggers	Agent training
Wood utilization incubators to increase Eastern KY value-added wood industry	Value-added opportunities
Phase I forestry model program	4-H forestry judging
Collaboration (UK, KDF, Division of Water, commercial foresters)	Liability
Management for landowners not relying on forestry as primary farm income	Profitability
	Long-term vs short-term issues

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).