Labette County
www.labette.ksu.edu
Extension Connection
K-State Research and Extension News

November/
December
2009

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Family
pg. 2

4-H & Youth
pg. 4

Agriculture
pg. 6

Calendar
Back Cover

Autumn Home Invaders

It is the time of year for some insects to look for places to overwinter in homes. These include crickets, boxelder bugs, millipedes, and especially the multicolored Asian lady beetle. These pests are really just a nuisance and pose no threat to health or property but when significant numbers do build up they can be a serious nuisance.

Multicolored Asian lady beetles can particularly be a nuisance. These insects are considered "beneficial" insects during the growing season. They were first imported into the US by the USDA in the late 70s and early 80s to help with aphid control. They are very efficient aphid predators and since they have biting/chewing mouthparts they can also deliver an irritating bite to people. If enough beetles congregate inside a home they can also cause a small odor problem, may stain certain substrates when smashed, and occasionally cause an allergic reaction in some folks. If there are significant numbers of beetles in your area this fall it probably means that aphids were plentiful in nearby crops and other plants this past summer. These beetles are primarily attracted to the south- and west-facing sides of structures because they radiate/reflect the most heat.

The best way to protect your dwelling from these pests is to limit access by eliminating, or at least reducing, the points of entry. Ensure that all screens are tight fitting and intact. Make sure the caulk around windows and door frames are in good condition. Remove excess foliage and mulch from around the foundation. Insecticides can also be effective if you treat the exterior foundation and some of the area around the outside of the building. This often reduces the number of potential household invaders.

Once inside, sometimes hand-picking or vacuuming is enough to eliminate the problem. Glue boards can also be helpful to trap the insects. However, if significant numbers do succeed in entering, an insecticide application inside the home may be required. Aerosol sprays may work to give a quick knock down but have short lasting effects. Insecticides with longer lasting effects can be sprayed along baseboards, in cracks, crevices, and other hidings places, and often work quite well. Always check the pesticide label to make sure the product you select is effective against the target pest and has no unwanted side effects, i.e. does not stain, leave unsightly residues, etc.

Holiday Happenings

November 10th
Erie Courthouse 10:00 am

November 17th
Montgomery County Extension Office
1:00 pm

November 18th
Parsons Senior Center 1:00 pm

November 20th
Cherokee County Extension Office
1:00 pm

Holiday Happenings has two presentations this year. One on Health in a Nutshell...Nuts for Flavor and Nutrition and the second presentation is Holiday Cheers. Find a date that works best for you and come join in the fun!

The following is a brief description of both presentations:

Health In A Nutshell...Nuts for Flavor and Nutrition

People throughout the world eat nuts as snacks and incorporate them into savory dishes. In addition, the richness of nuts is often used to enhance the flavor of many holiday recipes. Did you know, that just a handful (1 1/2 ounces) of tree nuts every day can help you follow the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Numerous studies show that nuts may be good for your health and they may lower LDL (bad) cholesterol. This lesson will highlight some of the research, and provide nutritional information, tips, resources and recipes.

Holiday "Cheers"

When holiday time rolls around, folks are bustling about in an attempt to finish Christmas shopping and prepare for, perhaps, one of many parties. The preparation for such a party is only part of the effort that goes into its successful presentation. Before that can be done, we must develop lists of decorations, activities and refreshments to be served. If you're looking for something new in the way of holiday beverages for this year's celebrations, join the fun and taste testing of holiday beverages.

FCE News and Reminders

November 5th
FCE Fall Workshop
9:00 am - Registration
9:15 am - Lessons begin

** Be sure to bring your own tea cup and a sack lunch.

** Contact the Extension office at 620-784-5337 if you intend to ride in the van.

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The November Council meeting date will be changed due to the holidays. Your council representative will be contacted with the time and date of the rescheduled meeting.

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December 23rd
10:00 am FCE Council Meeting
Extension Office, Altamont

Holiday Goodies

The holidays are fast approaching and is a great time to cook with a child or a grandchild. Take time this year to start creating life long memories with those little loved ones. Try the following helpful hints to get you started and always remember to wash your hands!

Helpful hints: Teach kids an easy way to fill muffin cups. Using a cookie scoop or ice cream scoop is less messy. Remember to explain to kids that raw eggs can make us sick. This is especially true for young children – so no licking the bowl or spoon! Wait until cupcakes are baked before sampling!

Pumpkin Muffins

Ingredients:

2 cups all-purpose flour

2 teaspoons baking powder

1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon salt

3/4 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice

1 cup canned pumpkin

1/2 cup sugar

1/3 cup low fat milk

1/4 cup vegetable oil

1 large egg

1/2 teaspoon grated orange peel

1/2 cup raisins

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

2. Spray muffin pan cups or use paper liners.

3. In a large bowl, combine flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and pie spice. In another bowl, whisk pumpkin, sugar, milk, oil, egg, orange peel until smooth. Add raisins.

4. Stir pumpkin mixture into dry ingredients just until combined.

5. Spoon into prepared pans and bake 20 minutes or until done.

6. Remove from pan and cool on wire rack.

Turkey Time

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and so is the tender and juicy turkey. The following chart will help insure that your turkey is cooked safely. If you have any additional questions call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1.888.674.6854.

APPROXIMATE COOKING TIMES

(325 °F oven temperature)

UNSTUFFED (time in hours)

4 to 6 lb breast.....1 1/2 to 2 1/4

6 to 8 lb breast.....2 1/4 to 3 1/4

8 to 12 lbs.....2 3/4 to 3

12 to 14 lbs.....3 to 3 3/4

14 to 18 lbs.....3 3/4 to 4 1/4

18 to 20 lbs.....4 1/4 to 4 1/2

20 to 24 lbs.....4 1/2 to 5

STUFFED (time in hours)

8 to 12 lbs.....3 to 3 1/2

12 to 14 lbs.....3 1/2 to 4

14 to 18 lbs.....4 to 4 1/4

18 to 20 lbs.....4 1/4 to 4 3/4

20 to 24 lbs.....4 3/4 to 5 1/4

4-H & Youth Connection

4-H Club Officer Training
November 5 @ 6:00pm

This year's 4-H Club Officer Training will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Labette County High School. All officers should attend. We will conduct the 4-H PDC meeting during the training and the first 4-H Council meeting after the training.

County 4-H Achievement Program

4-H members and leaders are invited to participate in the 2009 4-H Achievement Banquet. Sunday, November 15, 2009, in the LCHS cafeteria. The meal will begin at 5:00 P.M.. This is a great time to recognize leaders and members for their outstanding accomplishments for the past year.

The banquet always takes everyone to make it successful. This year set up will be taken care of by Leib, Pumpkin Creek, and Chetopa Pacers. Table decorations are being done by Thrifty Thrivers, Altamont Rooters, and Livestock Challengers. Clean up will be done by Sunflower, Foland Fliers, and Montana Road Runners.

The building will be open at 3:00 P.M. with set up starting at 4:00 P.M.. Please come and enjoy a great meal and time with friends.

To assist in meal planning please call the extension office at (620) 784-5337 with a meal count by November 14.

4-H Council & PDC Meetings

The next 4-H Council and PDC meetings will be Thursday, November 5, in conjunction with the officer training at the Labette County High School. These events will begin at 6:00 p.m. This is your club's chance to participate in decisions which effect the total county 4-H program.

ANYONE can attend a PDC or 4-H Council meeting. See you there!

2009/2010 4-H Membership

The new 4-H year began October 1, 2009. All members (new & returning) need to complete an enrollment form and Kansas 4-H participation form each year. Please include a family email address if possible. Enrollment and Kansas 4-H participation forms are available at the extension office or you can fill them out online and print or email them. The web address is at http://labette.ksu.edu Click on 4H and Youth

To be eligible to exhibit at the fair you must be enrolled in that project by June 1, 2010 or by the nomination or ownership deadline whichever is first. Those not enrolled by that deadline can exhibit in open class only.

Registered 4-H Volunteer (VIP)

Anyone (adult or teen) who independently plans and conducts educational experiences for 4-H youth or anyone whose position puts them in close, ongoing, one-to-one interaction with 4-H youth must be a Registered 4-H Volunteer.

The steps to complete the 4-H Volunteer Registration Process are: 1) Complete a Volunteer Information Profile; 2) Complete a volunteer orientation (can be done online, or view cd) and 3) Labette County VIP Review Committee will review and forward to Labette County Extension Executive Board for final approval.

Those volunteers roles which require certification include, but are not limited to: judging team coach, community leader, project leader, and chaperone.

New volunteers will complete and submit the VIP at the beginning of their first year of service. On-going volunteers were previously certified will complete and submit a VIP Renewal form on an annual basis.

Forms are available in the extension office or online at http://www.kansas4-h.org./ Please call the extension office if you have questions.

Beef Expo Judging Contest

The Kansas Beef Expo Judging Contest is set for Friday, December 11 at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. There will be divisions for Juniors, Intermediates and Seniors. There are also reasons and non-reasons divisions as well.

We will be leaving from the LCHS Vo-Ag building at 5:30 a.m. This is an excellent chance to try your hand at livestock judging. If you would like to participate or have questions call me at (620) 784-5337 or you can email me at rkmartin@ksu.edu

Volunteer Development

In addition to recruiting new members now is an excellent time to recruit volunteers as well. The first question you will want to ask is: "what role or roles need to be filled." The answers to this question will guide you in the places to look and the appeal to make.

In our changing society, the "one size fits all" blanket appeal is not usually successful. As the cliché goes "when it is everybody's job, it is no one's job".

People are more likely to say yes it they know what you are asking them to do. What do you need volunteer help to do? Where are the people who could fill that role? How do you get in contact with them? Who could you get to help with the "task"?

The answers to these questions will guide you to your next steps and give you a better chance of successfully filling the volunteer roles you need filled.

PYD (Positive Youth Development) Tips

Here are some tips to improve involvement of youth in 4-H activities.

1. Clarify purpose of youth involvement
2. Plan and do at the same time - youth have busy schedules
3. Aim for creating real youth and adult partnerships - youth can tell if adults are sincere
4. Orientation and ongoing support - youth need mentors, it's harmful to 'abandon' youth and call it "partnership"
5. Make meetings interactive - youth are adept at multi-tasking and communication
6. Give young people meaningful roles
7. Respect youth needs, especially the need to communicate with each other
8. Encourage youth to network with peers
9. Provide opportunity for reflection not just reaction
10. Institutionalize youth involvement - have youth fill important leadership roles.

4-H Day with the Wildcat Women's Basketball Saturday, January 9, 2010, 11 a.m. K-State vs. KU

Group Ticket Rate of $15 per person, youth or adult. What you will receive:

A ticket to the K-State Lady Cats vs. Kansas Women's Basketball Game ·

A game day T-shirt · Hot Dog and Drink

Registration due on December 10, 2009 form is available at:
http://www.kansas4-h.org/DesktopDefault.aspx
link is listed under what's hot.

HOW TO FILE A 990-N (E-POSTCARD)

If you are asked to file a 990-N (e-postcard) for your 4-H group, follow these steps:

1. Go to www.irs.gov/charities/
2. Click on Form 990-N (e-postcard)
3. Click on the "Here" spot to file 990-N
4. Click to leave IRS site (Government contracted with a company to process forms) Follow directions to Register as a New User
5. Request Login ID by inserting EIN for the group
6. Create a password
7. Receive e-mail
8. Follow directions

If you have any questions, contact Jim Adams (jadams@ksu.edu) or 785-532-5800.

Valuing By - Product Feeds

High soybean meal prices have pretty much priced it out of beef rations. This means that by product feeds have a huge price advantage when compared to a traditional corn, soybean meal mix. Based on a corn price of $3.90/bushel and a Soybean Meal (47) price of $375/ton. Here are the values of some by product feeds based on their dry matter, energy, and protein contents:

	DM	DM CP	Value/ Ton
Corn Gluten Feed	90%	23%	$218
Soy Hulls	91%	12%	$135
Wheat Mids	89%	19%	$184
Wet Distillers Grains	30%	29%	$74
Dry Distillers Grains	90%	29%	$223
Alfalfa Hay	90%	17%	$165
30% Block (10 npn)	90%	22%	$172

If the delivered price of the feeds listed above are lower than the listed values/ton then they would be cheaper to feed than a ration of the same energy and protein level formulated from $3.90/bushel corn and $375/ton soybean meal. Remember that there is considerable variability in some of these products and their actual value might not be what I have used in this example. I would be glad to answer any questions you have on this subject or look at other alternatives and/or price levels for any feed ingredient. Call me at (620) 784-5337 for more information.

Kansas Crop Performance Tests

Crop harvest is behind in K - State's performance tests just as they are in our area. The only test which has been harvested with preliminary data is the short season corn test at Parsons. The website to get the data is linked from our website http://labette.ksu.edu click on crops and livestock or the agronomy site is http://www.agronomy.ksu.edu/extension/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=91

Cropland and Pasture Leases

About 58% of the crop acres in southeast Kansas are leased and about 85% of the farming operations in southeast Kansas utilize leased land. This can lead to several questions and concerns. In almost all cases better communication could alleviate at least some of the concerns raised.

One of the best ways to create a better understanding between tenant and landlord in most cases is to have a written lease. Having a written lease causes many topics to be discussed that otherwise might not. These would include:

- Hunting/fishing rights
- Recreation access
- Payment due dates
- Termination procedures

In addition to the previously mentioned items a written pasture lease can spell out responsibilities of both parties in regards to:

- Care of fences
- Noxious weed control
- Water supply maintenance
- Grazing capacity restrictions

A bonus of a written lease is that it documents the terms of the business relationship in case the contract is questioned, this can be especially important if the land changes hands.

Obviously, it is not necessary to have a written lease to have good communication between tenant and landlord. There may be some cases when introducing the possibility of implementing a written lease might damage the business relationship. Regardless of whether you have a written lease or not, be sure that lines of communication are kept open.

If you have questions about leases or leasing contact the K - State Research & Extension Labette County office at (620) 784-5337 or you can email me at rkmartin@ksu.edu

Kansas Lease Law

The following summarizes some of the provisions of the Kansas lease law.

1) In 2002 the law was changed so that the same termination date (March 1) and notification procedures apply to both pastures and cropland.
2) For non-written leases of pastures and cropland notice to terminate must be given in writing at least 30 days prior to March 1 and fix tenancy termination date on March 1.
3) For fall seeded crops notice to terminate must be given in writing at least 30 days prior to March 1 and fix tenancy termination date on March 1. Tenant has right to harvest crop, tenancy will terminate after harvest or August 1 whichever occurs first.
4) Recent Legal Ruling (2000): If notice is given early, BEFORE field work starts to seed the wheat crop in the fall, then lease is terminated on the following March 1.
5) Written lease termination notice terms will supercede state law for oral leases.
6) IF prior to termination notice, Tenant has tilled, applied or furnished fertilizers, herbicides, or pest control substances & has NOT planted the crop, THEN the Landowner must pay the tenant a fair and reasonable value of those services furnished.
7) Tenants Are NOT Allowed Compensation for Land Improvements UNLESS Otherwise Stated in a Written Lease
8) Unpaid Rent is an Automatic Lien on Crops.
9) With a crop share lease, a RENTAL LEIN attaches to the landowner's share of the crop. The landowner must file to perfect this lein.
10) If Tenant Dies, the lease is terminated, no notice to the tenant's heirs is necessary.
11) If Landowner Dies, heirs assume the lease.
12) If property sells, lease goes with property. If landlord fails to disclose lease to new owner they are responsible for making tenant whole.

As with all laws lease laws are subject to change from legislative action or interpretation from judicial review. An excellent publication on Kansas Agriculture Lease Law law is available at www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/agec2/c668.pdf

Musk thistle control in fall

Fall is a good time to spray for musk thistle control. Producers can apply a herbicide for musk thistle control in the fall anytime from early October until the ground freezes.

Musk thistles are primarily biennial plants. Most germinate in spring, grow through the summer, remain in the rosette stage in the fall, go through the winter, then bolt and set seed in the following spring. Some will germinate in the fall and bolt the following spring.

Regardless, musk thistle plants are much easier to control with most herbicides in the rosette stage during the fall than after they have bolted in the spring. Another advantage of fall control is that chemical drift is not as much of a concern as in the spring.

For best results there needs to be plenty of soil moisture and temperatures should be at least 50 degrees or higher. Most herbicides for musk thistle control will be more effective if they are applied when the sun is shining and temperatures are at least 55 to 60 degrees.

The best choices for fall application are picloram (Tordon 22K) at the rate of 8-10 fluid oz per acre and 2,4-D LVE at the rate of 2 lb/acre. These herbicides are effective under the drier and cooler conditions that often occur in the fall. Dicamba, at rates as low as 1/3 lb per acre, can be effective on musk thistle when applied in the fall, but only if growing conditions are especially good. The best use for dicamba would be as part of a mixture with 2,4-D LVE. There are some dicamba/2,4-D premixes available, such as Weed Master and Range Star.

Other herbicides for musk thistle control are best used in the spring, Curtail, Redeem R&P, Overdrive, Ally, Escort XP, Cimarron, and Rave. These can be effective on musk thistle plants that have bolted in the spring.

Labette County Extension Calendar of Events

November

02	Extension Council Board Meeting
02	Extension Council Annual Meeting
05	4-H Club Officer Training
05	4-H PDC Meeting
05	4-H Council Meeting
11	Office Closed
15	4-H Achievement Banquet
26/27	Office Closed

December

11	Beef Expo Livestock Judging, Hutchinson
23	FCE Council Meeting, Extension Office
25	Office Closed

"Knowledge for Life"