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Lyon County

K-State Research and Extension News

*“Knowledge
for Life”*

September 2015

**Lyon County
Extension Office**

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It's Your Chance to Serve!

If you are interested in serving or becoming more involved, please consider serving on the Lyon County Extension Council.

The Council is made of 24 members with six each serving on one of the four Program Development Committees (PDC's): Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H Youth Development, and Community Development. The Program Development Committees provide guidance for Extension programming for the county.

In Lyon County the Extension Council is elected in an at large, election. Extension Council members are elected to a 2 year term, and may be re-elected once before they must sit out for a year. Twelve Extension Council members are elected or re-elected annually and represent one of four Extension programming areas.

All citizens of voting age are eligible to vote in the at-large elections. These are public meetings or mail elections held not earlier than September 1, but not later than ten days before the annual meeting of the council.

Please contact us by Wednesday, September 9th, 2015 to let us know if you are interested in having your name on the ballot.

Extension Council Elections are tentatively scheduled for:

October 7th

7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

At the Lyon County Extension Office



The Clover Connection



Congratulations on a successful 2015 Lyon County Fair.

A special *Thank You* to all 4-H'ers, parents, and volunteers who put in hours of dedication to make the Lyon County Fair a fun and enjoyable time for everyone!



Show Your Appreciation

Were you amazed at the number of people who attended the Friends of 4-H Picnic? All of those individuals have helped to make the 4-H program here in Lyon County as successful as it is. **It is important to let them know how much we appreciate them! Remember to write thank you notes for any awards you received at the county fair.** Leaders, please remind everyone in your club to send the proper thank you notes. It is also important to remember to thank these people throughout the year for any other awards or services that you may receive. We have lost sponsors and buyers in the past for lack of expressed appreciation; we don't want to see that continue to happen.

A good idea to show appreciation would be to bake something to drop by and present your thank you in person with a great homemade treat. Sponsors appreciate seeing our fine youth and give these awards because they believe in 4-H and know that it teaches youth generosity. So please be thankful for the great support they give our programs.

Coordinators and superintendents play vital roles in making the fair possible. They dedicate countless hours to help set up the fair, work with judges and organize our events. Please take note of those volunteers listed in your fair book who work in areas you were involved in and take time to send them a note of appreciation for their help. We also want to remember to thank the Lyon County Fair Board members. They work hard year-round to make our fair possible, and I want to encourage you to send a personal thank you to these members.

4-H Council Representation

As we look to a new 4-H year, we would like to remind you of the importance of club attendance at 4-H Council meetings. Since the newsletter is an every other month publication, 4-H Council serves as a vital communication tool for the office to get information out to clubs. If your 4-H club does not have an adult and a 4-H member in attendance at the council meeting, you will miss important information and deadlines. 4-H Council has always been an important link between clubs and the Extension Office. It is the club leaders' responsibility to have representation at the council meetings from both adults and 4-H membership. As new officers are elected in your club, please make sure council representation is not overlooked. I look forward to having another great year.



County-wide 4-H Sunday

The 4-H Ambassadors are planning a county-wide 4-H Sunday event Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. at the Anderson Building. With the Kansas Junior Livestock Show on the first Sunday of October, Lyon County will host our county-wide 4-H Sunday the following Sunday to allow 4-Hers to participate in both activities. Clubs, neighbors, former 4-Hers and friends are encouraged to attend this event. This is "one Sunday during the year set aside to highlight the heart 'H' and the spiritual side of 4-H work. 4-H strives for fourfold development – spiritual, mental, physical and social. Spiritual growth is enhanced as young people take their place in the church and put its teachings into place in everyday living." Watch Facebook for more details. If you haven't "Liked" K-State Research and Extension – Lyon County on Facebook find us now to keep up to date on information and reminders.

Achievement Celebration

The 2015 Lyon County Achievement Celebration will be held on Sunday, October 25 at the Emporia Granada Theatre. We will begin with the awards program at 3 p.m. followed by snacks and fun festivities. The 4-H

Council Committee in charge of the celebration is still working on details, so be watching for news from your club leader.

2015 Kansas State Fair

The 2015 Kansas State Fair will be Friday, September 11 through Sunday, September 19. Kansas State Fair entries (Clothing, Arts & Crafts, Photography, Rocketry, etc.) **MUST** be at the Extension Office by Thursday, September 10 at 5:00 p.m. If you would like to bring exhibits before that day, please do so. The Extension Office will be open at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, September 11 to accept **ONLY** Foods & Nutrition and Horticulture items. We will be leaving for Hutchinson at exactly 8:30 a.m. Any exhibits not at the office by 8:15 a.m. will not be taken to the State Fair.

4-H Council

4-H Council will meet on Tuesday, September 8, at 7 p.m. in the Extension Office Meeting Room. Please note that the meeting is on Tuesday, NOT Monday, due to the Labor Day holiday. The October Council Meeting will be held on Monday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Extension Office Meeting Room.

Online 4-H Enrollment Process

Enrollment for the 2015-2016 4-H year will again be online, but will not begin until October 1. The sooner you get your 4-Hers enrolled the sooner you will be receiving accurate information regarding project meetings and various project related information. Returning 4-H members may be re-enrolled with the original account created for last year's enrollment. It's important that each family enroll their own 4-H members with a valid email address so that we can continue to improve the communications with our 4-H families.

In addition to enrollment/re-enrollment online, a 4-H Participation Form is required. This form is now part of the online enrollment process. It's important the Participation Form information is accurately completed. We appreciate your participation in 4-H and hope that you will stick with us through the new online enrollment process. Please stay in touch with your club leaders for more information.

48 Hours of 4-H

Join thousands of 4-Hers and volunteers across Kansas for 48 Hours of 4-H October 10 and 11, 2015. Kansas 4-Hers are encouraged to set up service projects in their local communities to showcase the positive impact 4-Hers can make in just one weekend. Be sure to visit

the state 4-H website to find forms to document your service and contribute to the statewide event. Check out www.kansas4-h.org/p.aspx?tabid=595 for more information.

National 4-H Week

National 4-H Week will be October 4 - 10, 2015. Clubs are encouraged to inform their communities about 4-H during this week. 4-H members should be prepared to discuss contests, presentation, displays and other ways to promote 4-H during National 4-H week. Hopefully, we can use the week to promote the 4-H program to the best of our ability.

Ambassador Applications

Lyon County is looking for 4-H members who are interested in becoming county 4-H Ambassadors. The Ambassadors represent and promote the 4-H program throughout our community. Some of the programs and events Ambassadors have assisted with in the past include the Petting Zoo, Day Camp, Friends of 4-H Picnic, after School programming, and the county fair.



The Ambassador Program is a large time commitment for 4-H'ers and their families. Please take time to carefully consider the time commitment to the program and other requirements before applying. Through the Ambassador program, we hope to offer teenage youth important leadership opportunities by developing their communication and marketing skills. To apply, applicants must be currently in 9th grade but no older than 11th grade. If selected, an Ambassador serves a two-year term beginning at the Achievement Celebration of the year applying. We plan to continue the Junior Ambassador role, which allows 4-Hers who are currently in 8th grade apply. This is a one-year term.

Applications and reference forms are available at the Extension Office. They are due no later than 5 p.m. on October 1, 2015. No late applications will be accepted. Applications are also available on the county website at www.lyon.ksu.edu.

Once applications are reviewed, qualified applicants will be invited for a professional interview on Wed., Oct. 7, with time slots beginning at 6:30 p.m. Interviews will be scheduled every 15 minutes during the evening until all invited applicants are interviewed.

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum

The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum is November 20-22, 2015 at Rock Springs 4-H Center. The Forum is for youth ages 14-18. Registration will be available on the State website. The event will include speakers, workshops, consulting groups and election of the state 4-H Youth Council.

Any 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 by January 1, 2016 may apply to be a council member. The duties of the Council include planning the next Youth Leadership Forum and other events, and may include assisting with State 4-H functions, working with 4-H public relations, and speaking at local achievement programs, forums, and other workshops or conferences. Applications for the State 4-H Youth Council are available on the State 4-H website.

Selecting Projects

Another exciting 4-H year is about to begin. Members, parents, and volunteers should all be involved in the selection of projects. The goal is that they have quality, in-depth project experiences.

4-H projects and activities are perfect opportunities to help teach young people about making a decision and following through with commitments. Decide on a project limit and give them the power to decide what project(s) to enroll. It is the adult's role to make sure the projects selected are age appropriate and within the members individual abilities. When choosing a 4-H project or the number of 4-H projects, it is important to consider time commitments for school, extra curricular activities, work and social schedules.

4-H offers more than 30 project areas to develop mastery. Remember that you must be enrolled in the project to be able to exhibit an item in a project area. For instance, if you'd like to exhibit a Breeding Doe as well as a Market Meat Goat, be sure to enroll in both Market and Breeding projects. You will have until May 1 to add or drop projects, but it's wise to consider your interests early so work can begin at the start of the 4-H year. If you find you have an interest that isn't represented, I encourage you to consider a self-determined project. The self-determined project is also a good way to remain involved in 4-H programming as you get older, even with busy schedules and other interests. Many interests and activities can be translated into 4-H project work that will allow youth to continue to develop leadership and life skills. While the self-determined project isn't just for older youth, I would encourage you to first familiarize yourself with some of the traditional project areas first to gain knowledge and a feel for how 4-H projects are developed.

Lyon County 4-H Ambassadors meet monthly at 6:00 p.m. on the first Monday of the month. Special meetings are also being planned for the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the months of February, April, June and July to offer leadership, public speaking and program development opportunities. A training and orientation program is also mandatory and is scheduled in January. If you are interested in being an Ambassador, please be sure to commit to participating in these meetings.

For more information, contact the Extension Office, Shawna Moyer or Tracy Simmons, or a current Ambassador.

Records Books & Awards

Record Books and Special Awards applications are due in the Extension Office **by 5:00 p.m. on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 or your club leader may bring them to 4-H Council that evening.** Just as a reminder, *senior* record books **must** have a separate record book for each project. If you have questions about record books, please contact the Extension Office. Forms can be found at www.lyon.ksu.edu under the 4-H Youth Development tab or by visiting the Extension Office. Remember to fill out a Record Book Project Check List (see graphic) for each project that you complete a KAP.

In addition to the record books, other award forms that are due at this time are:

Friend of 4-H	4-H Alumni
4-H Family of the Year	I Dare You

Clubs need to turn in their compiled record book award list of their members (County Project Achievement Awards – Junior, Intermediate and Senior divisions). Please include the award checklists. Club seals will also need to be turned in at this time. Historian, Reporter, Secretary and Treasurer books are also due.

Club leaders and project club leaders are also good resources to help with record books. For younger or first-time 4-Hers, simplified records sheets can be utilized instead of the KAP application.

Seniors who use the simplified form will not be considered for the county awards. If you have any questions don't hesitate to call the Extension Office.

CHECKLIST FOR EXCELLENCE IN A 4-H PROJECT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD	
Leaders are to turn this checklist into the Extension Office along with the other award applications by September 1. Every 4-H member that turns in a record book should include this checklist. This checklist should include ONLY 4-H activities, NOT school activities.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior: 7 - 8 years	Must answer "YES" to questions 1 through 5.
<input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate: 9-13 years	Must answer "YES" to questions 1 through 5 and "YES" to two of the remaining questions.
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior: 14 - 19 years	Must answer "YES" to questions 1 through 5 and "YES" to three of the remaining questions.
NAME: _____ AGE BY JANUARY 1 st : _____	
PROJECT AREA: _____	
PARENT'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____	
No. of countywide project meetings held this year: _____ No. attended: _____	
No. of local/club project meetings held this year: _____ No. attended: _____	
YES NO 1. Attend at least three project meetings/educational activities? List: _____	
YES NO 2. Present at least one talk about the project? (i.e., County Club Day, Club/Project Meeting, Club Tour, etc.) Where: _____ Topic: _____	
YES NO 3. Turn in a completed record book?	
YES NO 4. Attend at least one-half of your club's regularly scheduled meetings? How many meetings held: _____ How many attended: _____	
YES NO 5. Exhibit or participate at the Lyon County Fair? If no class, exhibit by notebook or poster? List exhibit: _____	
YES NO 6. Participate in a county, multi-county, or area 4-H event related to this project (judging, Club Days, Spring Show, etc.). List event: _____	
YES NO 7. Take part in a project tour or field trip? List event: _____	
YES NO 8. Serve as a Fair Junior Superintendent? List fair division project area: _____	
YES NO 9. Serve as an Assistant Project Leader in your club for respective project? List name of project leader you assisted: _____	
YES NO 10. Community Service/Citizenship related to this project? List: _____	
Leader's Initials: _____	

4-H Age

With the new 4-H year coming up, it's important to understand how 4-H age is determined.

- An individual may officially enroll on his/her 7th birthday and after, **but not before**.
- **To participate in the 2016 Lyon County Fair, the 4-H'er must be 7 by January 1, 2016.**
- Young people who turn 19 before January 1, 2016 cannot re-enroll in 4-H for the 2015 -2016 4-H year.

Lyon County 4-H Alumni Association

This group strives to gather former 4-H'ers, leaders and volunteers to support Lyon County 4-H. Alumni are an excellent resource for the 4-H program because they provide the expertise, ideas, and creativity needed to strengthen our program. The group also offers financial support to local 4-H'ers through scholarships and Extension support. Some activities include: Sponsoring the Kansas 4-H Journal for the 4-H families, providing an informational booth at the Lyon County Fair, and holding an annual meeting each year for fellowship and sharing memories. Any former 4-H member, community or project leaders, and supporters of the 4-H program are encouraged to join. The Lyon County 4-H Alumni Association is planning its annual meeting for Sunday, Oct. 11 prior to the county-wide 4-H Sunday. If you are interested in becoming a part of this organization, or if you have more questions, please contact Barb Burum at (620) 443-5790.

Building Strong Clubs

The **first impression...**clubs have only one chance to make a first impression! Let's hope it's a positive impression. If new members don't feel comfortable with the club, they won't come back. Therefore, as we are getting ready to start the new 4-H year, we encourage your club to make a plan to be a welcoming environment where young people and adults feel accepted. Create a plan for welcoming new members. Some ideas include:

- Assign an adult volunteer or family to serve as the club's *New Family Coordinator* to greet guests and help them understand 4-H.
- During the club meeting, introduce guests and help them understand what is happening.
- After the meeting, follow up with a phone call or email thanking the guests for visiting. Offer to answer any questions they may have.
- If the guests become members, be available to explain and answer questions about 4-H.

Club Financial Reviews due Nov. 15!

All 4-H clubs, including county-wide project clubs like shooting sports and Rawhide Wranglers, will be required

to submit Financial Reviews for the 2014-2015 4-H year which is from October 2014 through September 2015. They are due by Nov. 15 to the Extension Office.

State Youth Council

The Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council (K4-HYLC) and Kansas 4-H'ers are looking for committed, enthusiastic members to serve on the 2016 Council. Lyon County's own Katherine MacGregor has served on youth council for the last two years. She was twice elected by her peers to serve representing the southeast area. It has been a true joy to watch her grow and represent Lyon County and Kansas 4-Hers in this role. I know she would agree that it has been a wonderful experience that took hours of dedication. She has made life-long connections and gained valuable knowledge. If you are interested in seeking this level of leadership, please don't hesitate to contact Katherine with questions or stop by the Extension Office to visit with Corinne. Twelve Council members (3 from each Extension area) are elected at the Kansas Youth Leadership Forum, November 20-21, 2015, at Rock Springs 4-H Center to serve Kansas 4-H for the 2016 year. Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1, 2016 may apply. The application process requires action by October 1 with references and online requirements. If interested, please touch base with the Extension Office immediately.

Lyon County Exchange Program

Lyon County 4-H has been involved in Inter-State 4-H Exchange programs for several years. This program is made available to 4-Hers ages 14-19 (traditionally must be 15 years old to travel). The last session wrapped up this summer with 12 Lyon County 4-Hers traveling to Michigan after hosting in summer 2014.

The next exchange — if this program continues — will not take place until 2017/2018. There will likely be a review of requirements, participation and guidelines before the next exchange in an effort to continue to meet the needs of 4-H families. By indicating interest, you will help gauge the need for this program. However, no 4-Her will be guaranteed the opportunity to participate just by simply signing up. It is a significant time and financial commitment from a fundraising and participation standpoint. If you have a 4-Her who will be at least 14 by May 1, 2017 (possible requirement could limit to 15 by May 1, 2017) who would like to participate in an inter-state 4-H exchange program, please contact the Extension Office. A list of names will be compiled to determine if there is interest in continuing the program. If you have questions about what this program involves, please contact Corinne.



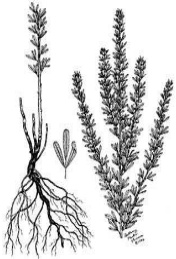
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Agriculture and Natural Resources

September 2015

Now is **STILL** the time to Control Sericea



With the recent August rainfall in part of the county, there is a chance to work on sericea lespedeza again this fall. The plants have freshened up and should be much more susceptible to herbicide treatments. Product selection and application method are important to success.

Sericea lespedeza is a shrubby, deciduous perennial about 2 to 5 feet tall. Coarse stems are single or clustered with numerous branches. New growth each year comes from buds located on the stem bases or crown about 1 to 3 inches below ground. Stems and branches are densely leaved. Leaves are trifoliate and attached by short petioles. Leaves are club- or wedge-shaped (wider at the tip than the base), 1/4 to 1 inch long and 1/16 to 1/4 inch wide. The leaf is round to flat at the top, with a conspicuous point at the tip. The lower leaf surface has silky hairs. Scale-like stipules are present on the stem. Flowers are yellowish-white with purple to pink markings and appear from mid-July to early October. The flowers occur in clusters of 1 to 3 in the upper leaf axils and are 1/4 inch long, fused at the base (Figure 3). The tan to greenish seeds are 1/16 to 1/8 inch long.

In K-State Research studies, Triclopyr (Remedy) and triclopyr + fluroxypyr (PastureGard) have given excellent control of sericea lespedeza when applied in June and early July, sometimes into August and even early September. Metsulfuron products (Ally, Cimarron Plus, Escort XP, and others) have given excellent control when applied in September. Sericea **has not been controlled** with 2,4-D, and only minimal kill has been achieved with a mix of either 2,4-D + picloram (Tordon), or 2,4-D + dicamba. Always read and follow label instructions and cautions.

For more details on sericea lespedeza ID and control, see "Sericea Lespedeza: History, Characteristics, and Identification," K-State publication MF-2408 from the Extension Office or give me a call at 620-341-3220.

KSU Beef Stocker Field Day

The 2015 KSU Beef Stocker Field Day will be held on Thursday, September 24 at the KSU Beef Stocker Unit in Manhattan. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the day will conclude with a good old-fashioned Prairie Oyster Fry.

In between will be presentations by Glynn Tonsor – Charting the Course in Choppy Waters; a panel on Breaking in to the Stocker Business including a couple of local speakers – Mike Utech and Justin Keith; Innate Immunity and BRD in Stocker Calves with Jim Sears from Bayer; a Veterinarian Panel that includes another local speaker, Dr. Stan Perry, on Health Issues – What We Think; and 3 Breakout Sessions on 1) Dealing with Old World Bluestem, 2) Lungs: When Things aren't Right, and 3) New Pen Construction – Considerations, Requirements and Costs.

Pre-registration is \$25 by September 15. Complete details are at www.KSUbeef.org. For more details, call me at the office (620-341-3220) or contact Dale Blasi (785-532-5427; dblasi@ksu.edu).

Eastern Kansas Grazing School

The Eastern Kansas Grazing School will be on September 9th and 10th with registration at the Allen County Fairgrounds, Riverside Park on South State Street. Speakers will present on several timely topics related to rotational grazing and the implementation of Management Intensive Grazing (MiG). Topics to be covered may include: Grazing Arithmetic, Pasture Watering Resources, Fencing for Rotational Grazing, Matching Animal Needs to Pasture Production, and an overview of a Crabgrass and Teff Research Plot.

Adult learners are the target audience for the Grazing School. Registration is \$50.00 for the first person from a farm or ranch, and includes proceedings, snacks, and three meals. Additional persons from the same operation are an additional \$25.00 each which includes snacks and three meals. Registration is limited to 35 farms on a first-come basis. Contact Chris Petty, Southwind Extension District Agent, cgp@ksu.edu or 620-223-3720 to see if you can still get in.

SCOUTING

I have received reports of sugarcane aphids on grain sorghum in southeast Lyon County. These guys can do a lot of damage in pretty short order, and make a mess for harvest as well. Check thresholds and insecticides prior to making an application for control. We have also had pretty high levels of Alfalfa Webworm in the area, and there are reports of large numbers of sorghum head worms/corn earworms doing damage in sorghum.

2015 Agricultural Lenders Conference

The 2015 Agricultural Lenders Conferences will take place on September 29 in Garden City and on September 30 in Manhattan. Topics will include: Grain Market Outlook for 2016; Precision Ag Technology and Data; Pasture Leases in Kansas; Animal Health; Beef Cattle Market Outlook for 2016; Farm Management Budgets; and Macroeconomics and Interest Rate Outlook.

Pre-registration deadline is September 25, and is \$90. Registration at the door is \$100. More information on the conference and speakers is available at our office, or at www.agmanager.info.

Bankers Conservation Awards

If you or some of your neighbors are deserving of recognition for their conservation efforts, please let me know as soon as possible. We are planning the tour in early September to allow time for photos and interviews while there is still living plant material – makes for a better presentation than brown grass!! Please give me a call at the office, 620-341-3220, or contact Kelsey Keith at the Lyon County Conservation District, 620-343-2813, by Friday September 4!

“Win-Win or No Deal”

Thanks to Chris Reinhardt, Extension Feedlot Specialist, for sharing the following thoughts.

I recently had the opportunity to listen to a cattleman speak at a conference on the subject of, among other things, loyalty and building informal alliances in your business. The general take-homes were very useful, and included concepts such as: make “the pie” bigger so that both parties’ share of the pie is bigger than before the relationship; business is not a zero sum game where one party must lose for the other party to win; and building seller-buyer relationships based on loyalty can move both parties to a higher plane of business success than simply basing the transaction on lowest price vs. greatest margin.

But one message that also stood out was based on one of “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People” by Stephen R. Covey, the concept of “think win-win”. Loosely, the “think win-win” suggests that for any relationship to be sustainable over a long time period, the relationship must benefit both parties. One party may sacrifice profit over the short-term while the other party benefits, in an attempt to build trust and loyalty, but if the partnership

does not result in improved profitability long-term for both parties, one party will move away from the relationship because the partnership has become “win-lose”. However, if the partnership results in benefits---financial, logistical, or otherwise---for both parties, long-term, this is considered “win-win”.

A critical element of this concept is that if one party decides that there is no long-term benefit for them from the relationship, they must move away and say, “No deal.” Obviously, the party on the short end of the bargain will likely make this call, but the astute manager on the winning end of this partnership should also be wise enough to know that this partnership will not last; we can only drain our partners’ resources for so long. And the sooner both parties agree to end the relationship amicably, the greater will be the opportunity to (a) move on to forge new partnerships elsewhere and (b) prevent hurt feelings in order to possibly forge a partnership together in the future.

This concept actually extends to employer-employee relationships as well. The astute manager is constantly on the lookout for excellent individuals to add to the team, and throughout the interview and hiring process, is evaluating for the individual’s skills and qualifications, but is also considering how the person will fit in with the rest of the team. However, no system can guarantee 100% hiring success, and eventually the organization will hire a person who just doesn’t fit. But the astute manager will also recognize when an employee’s qualifications, abilities, and ambitions greatly exceed the opportunities provided by the existing position---a “win” for the organization but not necessarily a “win” for the employee.

It’s important for the manager to either (a) identify an advancement path for this individual within the organization or (b) recognize that this employee will not stay in the organization long-term, and start looking to identify a replacement. *For more information, contact Chris at cdr3@ksu.edu.*

Other Events Planned

Two brush control field days are being planned on October 15 & 16, one in north and one in south Lyon County. Sites and further information will follow. Additionally, there will be a Fall Forestry Field Day on October 17 north of Madison.

I am also hoping to have a couple of sessions this winter, including discussion on Old World Bluestem, and possibly sprayer nozzle selection and calibration.

Planting Trees in the Fall

The fall season can be an excellent time to plant trees. During the spring, soils are cold and may be so wet that low oxygen levels inhibit root growth. The warm and moist soils associated with fall encourage root growth. Fall root growth means the tree becomes established well before a spring-planted tree and is better able to withstand summer stresses. However, certain trees do not produce significant root growth during the fall and are better planted in the spring. These include beech, birch, redbud, magnolia, tulip poplar, willow oak, scarlet oak, black oak, willows, and dogwood.

Fall-planted trees require some special care. Remember, that roots are actively growing even though the top is dormant. Make sure the soil stays moist but not soggy. This may require watering not only in the fall but also during the winter months if we experience warm spells that dry the soil. Mulch also is helpful because it minimizes moisture loss and slows the cooling of the soil so root growth continues as long as possible. Evergreens should be moved earlier in the fall than deciduous plants. They need at least six weeks before the ground freezes for the roots to become established.

Mycosphaerella Leaf Spot on Ash

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) comes to mind every time homeowners have a problem with their ash tree. However, contrary to popular belief, EAB has only been confirmed in Johnson, Leavenworth and Wyandotte counties.

One of the more common problems homeowners have with their ash trees is mycosphaerella leaf spot. This leaf spot causes small, brown spots that enlarge to become blotches. The main reason homeowners think mycosphaerella leaf spot is serious is because it causes early leaf drop, this is not the case. Defoliation happening this late in the growing season will not hurt the health of the tree.

By now the tree has stored up enough energy to make it through the winter and leaf out again next spring.

Since this does not hurt the health of the tree, we do not recommend any chemical treatment. The best way to reduce the leaf spot is to make sure to discard the leaves once they have fallen.

Adding Organic Materials Directly to the Garden

If your garden has come to an early end, consider adding organic materials directly to the soil rather than composting. Materials such as residue from a lawn renovation, rotted hay, or rotted silage can be added and then tilled in the soil. Coarser materials such as tree leaves or garden residue should be shredded. Using a lawn mower with a bag attachment to shred and collect these materials in one operation is acceptable.

Spread organic material to a depth of 3 inches and then till it in. Be sure the soil is not too wet before tilling. The material will decompose quickly during warmer weather. The process of added organic materials can be repeated every two weeks from now until late November to early December. Just know that the process may take longer later in the fall.

Organic matter helps improve most of our soils. Clay soils are improved by improving tilth, aeration and how quickly the soil takes up water. In sandy soils organic matter acts as a sponge by holding water and nutrients.

This is just one way to add organic material to your gardens. If your garden is still producing and you are unable to add organic materials directly you can always use compost as it will improve our soils in the same way.

Fall Lawn Seeding Tips

The keys to successful lawn seeding are proper rates, even dispersal, good seed to soil contact, and proper watering. Evenness is best achieved by carefully calibrating the seeder or by adjusting the seeder to a low setting and making several passes to ensure even distribution. Seeding a little on the heavy side with close overlapping is better than missing areas altogether, especially for the bunch-type tall fescue, which does not spread. Multiple seeder passes in opposite directions should help avoid this problem.

A more serious error in seeding is using the improper rate. For tall fescue, aim for 6 to 8 pounds of seed per 1,000 square feet for new areas and about half as much for overseeding or seeding areas in the shade. Using too much seed results in a lawn that is more prone to disease and stress damage. The best way to avoid such a mistake is to determine the square footage of the yard first, and then calculate the amount of seed. Using too little seed can also be detrimental and result in clumpy turf that is not as visually pleasing.

Establishing good seed to soil contact is essential for good germination rates. Slit seeders achieve good contact at the time of seeding by dropping seed directly behind the blade that slices a furrow into the soil. Packing wheels then follow to close the furrow. The same result can be accomplished by using a verticut before broadcasting the seed, and then verticutting a second time.

Core aerators can also be used to seed grass. Go over an area at least three times in different directions, and then broadcast the seed. Germination will occur in the aeration holes. Because those holes stay moister than a traditional seedbed, this method requires less watering. If seeding worked soil, use light hand raking to mix the seed into the soil. A leaf rake often works better than a garden rake because it mixes seed more shallowly.

Water newly planted areas lightly, but often. Keep soil constantly moist but not waterlogged. During hot days, a new lawn may need to be watered three times a day. If watered less, germination will be slowed. Cool, calm days may require watering only every couple of days. As the grass plants come up,

gradually decrease watering to once a week if there is no rain. Let the plants tell you when to water. If you can push the blades down and they don't spring back up quickly, the lawn needs water. Once seed sprouts, try to minimize how much traffic (foot, mower, dog, etc.) seeded areas receive until the seedlings are a little more robust and ready to be mowed. Begin mowing once seedlings reach 3 to 4 inches tall.

Fertilize Spring-flowering Bulbs

October is the month that existing beds of spring-flowering bulbs such as daffodils and tulips are fertilized. If bulbs have been fertilized in the past, there is often plenty of phosphorus and potassium in the soil. It is best to use a soil test to be certain. If the soil needs phosphorus and potassium, use a complete fertilizer (such as 10-10-10, 9-9-6, etc.) at the rate of 2.5 lbs. per 100 square feet. This would equal 1 rounded teaspoon per square foot. If phosphorus and potassium are not needed, blood meal makes an excellent fertilizer. It should be applied at the rate of 2 pounds per 100 square feet or 1 teaspoon per square foot. Turf fertilizers such as a 27-3-3 or 30-3-3 can be used, but cut the rate by a third.

Call “Kansas One Call” Before Digging

Most people don't know what is buried under their property. Always call Kansas One Call before planting or setting fence. You may reach them at 811. Actually, people should never dig deeply enough by hand to hit a gas line while planting a tree unless a large tree spade is used. When hand digging, make the hole just deep enough so that the tree sits slightly above nursery level. To determine the depth of the hole, measure the distance from the root flare (point where trunk and roots meet) to the bottom of the root ball. If the flare isn't visible (very common), remove enough soil or media so that it is.

The width of the planting hole is also very important. It should be two to three times the width of the root ball. Loosening the soil outside the hole so it is five times the diameter of the root ball will allow the tree to spread its roots faster.



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Family & Consumer Sciences

Thank You

I want to thank all of the volunteers that helped at the 2015 Lyon County Fair. I feel that the 2015 fair was a huge success! The fair would not happen without the Lyon County Fairboard and the *many, many* other volunteers it takes to make the fair run smoothly. **Thank You to all that volunteered; we appreciate all your hard work and dedication.**

Attention Unit Members

**Fall Organizational Meeting
President's Council Meeting**

**Friday September 4th, 2015
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Extension Office Meeting Room**

**All unit members welcome at this meeting.
Bring ideas of new events to hold or try.**

President's Council Dates

September 4th

October 2nd

November 6th

December 4th - Christmas Celebration. All unit members invited.

We will set spring dates at the September meeting.

SHICK

(Senior Health Insurance Counselors of Kansas)

That is what SHICK stands for. Open Annual Enrollment Period for 2016 are from October 15 - December 7th 2015. There are several changes being made to drug plans this fall that will take effect next year. You should always review your Part D plan every year, just so you aren't surprised.

Prepare Kansas

Are you ready for a disaster to strike? Is your family ready when a disaster strikes? Do you know where to meet or how to contact one another? I had a very wise person tell me once it is not if but when a disaster will happen in our county.

K-State Research and Extension has developed a way for Kansans and others to prepare. Prepare Kansas is an online challenge, now in its second year, which focuses on simple activities every week during September. A goal is to make it as easy as possible for individuals or families to complete each activity – and become better prepared.

This year, the activities focus on creating an emergency supply kit; assembling a “grab and go” kit for each family member (including pets); creating a communication plan; and practicing a fire drill. Each week will focus on different emergencies that can happen. The program coincides with National Preparedness Month, designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Working step-by-step on each Prepare Kansas activity helps participants to be better prepared for emergencies, whether at home or at work. It can also spark discussions among families or co-workers about preparedness in general and the best ways to handle future disasters. By the end of September, participants will be more prepared for any emergencies, which can make recovery easier.

Registration ended on September 1st. If you still want to participate call me. You can still work on the tasks and follow the blog at:

<https://blogs.k-state.edu/preparekansas/>. I will have prizes available for participants in Lyon County who complete at least one of the weekly tasks during Prepare Kansas. If you have questions please call me at 341-3220.

Extension Election

The Extension Council Election will be Wednesday October 7th, the office is open 7:30 to 5:30 the day of the elections. Absentee ballots are usually available the week prior to the election if you are unavailable on October 7th. The Council is made of 24 members, six serving on one of four Program Development Committees (PDC): Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H Youth Development and Community Development. The Program Development Committees provide guidance for Extension programming for the county.

Fall Classes

Must have 10 participants pre-registered to hold classes. Register by calling the Extension Office at 341-3220.



Medicare Basics: New to Medicare Workshop September 30th 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Come learn the basics of Medicare, including eligibility, how and when to apply, what is covered by the various parts, and how to fill the gaps. Programs available to assist low income individuals will also be discussed. Anyone interested in learning more about the Medicare maze would benefit from the program, particularly those who are nearing age 65 or who help aging parents with insurance and financial matters.

Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate Monday October 26th 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Passion on personal possessions is a process that occurs for almost every person in every kind of family. Across the generations, objects have meaning and carry history- for individuals, for groups, for families. Every person and every family is different. The experiences they have when making decisions about who gets what, and why are also very different.

Today, it is not uncommon for families to be more complex than in generations past. Decisions about property may involve four or more generations, and include spouses, siblings, step-siblings, spouses from remarriages, domestic partners, adopted children, in-laws, friends, loved ones, and others.

Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate? This class will focus on the non-titled property. Non- titled property are those personal possessions that may or may not have monetary worth, or they may be cherished primarily for their sentimental value. Non-titled property can include: furniture, dishes, collections, photographs, family

documents, pets, toys and more. How to deal with the non-titled property can be challenging.

Skillet Meals and Crock Pot Cooking 2 Monday November 16th 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

This class is back by popular demand. So, we are refreshing and bringing new recipes and ideas for quick and easy, homemade meals for you and your family. Learn about making meals at home that are easy, nutritious and budget friendly. Skillet meals that are quick and easy. Slow Cooker meals ready when you get home. Home cooked meals can be ready in minutes. This will be a fun and entertaining lesson to be enjoyed by all that attend. Samples will be available.

Senior Health Fair Wednesday October 28 Harvest House, Flint Hills Christian Church 1836 E. Highway 50, Emporia Doors open at 8:30 – 2:00

8:00 Registration and Vendor Booth Open
9:00-11:30 Blood Pressure Checks by the nursing students from Flint Hills Technical College
9:15 Education Session
10:30 Education Session
11:45 Lunch with Entertainment- Catered by Olpe Chicken House
12:45 Keynote Address
1:45 Door Prizes Drawing

The Power of Friendship

Strong friendships are important in people's lives, and they are especially important in marriages and intimate relationships. However, sometimes keeping a friendship with a partner can be more difficult than with a friend. If a couple has developed a strong friendship with each other, it can carry them through the rough times in their lives.

When you communicate with a friend, you may share the small details of your life and your feelings. The same thing needs to happen in an intimate relationship, regardless of how long you have been together. Couples who have lived together for many years may think they know everything there is to know about the other person. But you change over time. Unless couples continually share, your partner may have no idea how you have changed in your thinking and your reactions to the world around you. Having a deep friendship helps you turn toward, rather than away, from that special person during both good and bad times.

Return Service Requested

Check out our website at
www.lyon.ksu.edu

September

- 04 FCS President's Council, noon, EMR
- 07 Labor Day – Extension Office Closed
- 08 Ambassadors Meeting, 6 pm, EMR
- 08 4-H Council Meeting, 7 pm, EMR
- 08 Record Books & Award Applications due to Extension Office
- 09-10 Eastern Kansas Grazing School, Allen County
- 10 KSF entries due except Foods & Horticulture
- 11 KSF Foods & Horticulture entries accepted 7:30-8:15 am
- 11-20 Kansas State Fair
- 14 Master Gardener Meeting, 5:15 pm, ESU
- 15 Cloverbuds, 6 pm, EMR
- 17 Hop To It Rabbit Club Meeting, 7 pm, EMR
- 20 Poultry Club Meeting, 1 pm, EMR
- 22 Rawhide Wranglers, 6 p.m., EMR
- 24 KSU Beef Stocker Field Day, Manhattan
- 30 Medicare Basics Class, 10 am & 7 pm, EMR

AB = Anderson Building
BCB = Bowyer Community Building
EMR = Extension Meeting Room

October

- 01 4-H Online Enrollment begins
- 01 Ambassador Applications due
- 02 FCS President's Council, noon, EMR
- 04-10 National 4-H Week
- 05 Master Gardener Meeting, noon, EMR
- 05 Ambassadors Meeting, 6 pm, EMR
- 05 4-H Council Meeting, 7 pm, EMR
- 07 Extension Election, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm
- 07 Ambassador Interviews
- 10-11 48 Hours of 4-H Service Weekend
- 11 4-H Alumni Meeting, EMR
- 11 County-wide 4-H Sunday, 7 pm, AB
- 12 Columbus Day – Extension Office Closed
- 15 Hop To It Rabbit Club Meeting, 7 pm, EMR
- 15-16 Brush Control Field Days
- 15-12/7 SHICK – Open enrollment
- 17 Fall Forestry Field Day, Madison
- 18 Poultry Club Meeting, 1 pm, EMR
- 20 Cloverbuds, 6 pm, EMR
- 25 4-H Achievement Celebration, 3 pm, Granada Theatre
- 26 Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate Class, 10 am & 7 pm, EMR
- 27 Rawhide Wranglers, 6 p.m., EMR
- 28 Senior Health Fair, 8:30 am–2 pm, Flint Hills Christian Church