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Lyon County

K-State Research and Extension News

*Knowledge
for Life*

**June
&**

July, 2016

**Lyon County
Extension Office**

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2016

Emporia Garden Tour

Saturday, June 18, 2016

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

(Please complete the tour
by 3:00 p.m.)

**Sponsored by
Lyon County Extension
Master Gardeners**

Funds used for Educational
Horticulture Projects
in Lyon County



Tickets for the
Garden Tour are
\$5 and are
available from any
Lyon County
Master Gardener
or at the
Lyon County
Extension Office!

With this newsletter, questions about the 2016 Lyon County Fair will increase here at the Extension Office. Fair books are anticipated by mid-June, and all online 4-H pre-entries are due by July 1, 2016, which is the Friday prior to the July 4th holiday. Do not forget to pre-enter your 4-H projects for the fair!

Finally, if you are interested in serving or becoming more involved in the community, please consider serving on the Lyon County Extension Council. The Council is made of 24 members, six serving on one of four Program Development Committees (PDC's): Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H Youth Development and Community Development. The Program Development Committees provide guidance for Extension programming for the county. **Please contact us by Monday, September 5th, 2016 to let us know of your interests on being placed on the ballot.**



The Clover Connection



Congratulations Seniors!

Congrats to the 21 high school seniors in the Lyon County 4-H program. We wish them all the best of luck in their futures!



They are: Claire Hamlin, Kyle Pedersen and Katherine MacGregor, Cloverleaf; Cameron Steffes, Happy Harvesters; Alison Alingh, Chelsie Browning and Maddie Simmons, Logan Avenue; Austin Anderson, Stephanie Brey, Austin Kurzen and Allison Smith, Model Boosters; Wyatt Bolen, Rinker; Peyton Heins, Colton Tyler, Riverside; Kaitlin Houck, Kara Horton, Riley Houston, Natalie Leffler, Randal Karr and Grayce McAllister, Sunflower.

2016 Lyon County Fair Pre-entries

Fair pre-entries will again be available through an online Google form at www.lyon.ksu.edu under the 4-H Youth Development tab. There is a separate electronic form for the Anderson Building entries and livestock entries. A summary cannot be created at the time of pre-entry, but you will be able to get a summary of your fair entries following the July 1 deadline. Due to details needed for pre-entry, Rabbit, Poultry and Rodeo entries must be made by paper forms (available online) and turned in to the Extension Office by July 1. Remember, you will not have to pre-enter the tag number with the livestock that you are bringing, but you will still need to indicate the number of animals you are bringing. You will still need to distinguish between market and breeding animals. Shooting sports does not require pre-entry for the fair as the ribbon shots will have already been completed.

Keep in mind that there is no way to be inclusive when trying to highlight fair changes. Read over your classes carefully when you receive your fair book. The fair book should be available online the first part of June at www.lyon.ksu.edu.

4-H Day Camp

The Lyon County 4-H Ambassadors are hosting a 4-H Day Camp on Wednesday, June 7 at the Anderson Building from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. All youth between the ages of 7 and 11 are encouraged to attend. Day camp will highlight 4-H projects through many fun activities. The cost for the event is \$10 per person. The fee

includes lunch, supplies and snacks. Payment will be due the day of the camp. Everyone must pre-register by June 1 by calling the Extension Office.

Gary Fuller Spring Classic a Success

Congratulations to all the Lyon County 4-H exhibitors who participated in the 2016 Gary Fuller Spring Classic. We had about 60 Lyon County 4-Hers show sheep, goats, cattle and pigs during the weekend event. Please be sure to thank our local sponsors who helped make this show a success.

Allen Meat Processing
Bluestem Farm & Ranch
Bunge Corporation
Davis Farms Trucking
East Emporia Vet Clinic
Frontier Farm Credit
Fuller Hay/Lisa Fuller
Malone Hereford Farm
Metal Roof Systems of Kansas
Miracle Café
Olpe Locker, LLC
PrairieLand Partners, Inc.
Schellhamer Builders
Wingert Farms
Dan & Susan Johnson
Gerald & Sharon Karr
Roland Webb
Gary Fuller Memorial



2016 Fair Notes

The official fair dates are Aug. 4-13. The Friends of 4-H Picnic will kick off 4-H related activities on July 28. You may find a complete tentative fair schedule online at www.lyon.ksu.edu. The Anderson Building will be closed for the final time on Wednesday, Aug. 10 at 9:30 p.m. The projects will be released from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 11.

There will not be a meat goat and sheep inspection at the 2016 Lyon County Fair. All livestock, including sheep and meat goats, are expected to be in good health and disease free to enter upon the fairgrounds. If in doubt, check with your veterinarian prior to bringing your animal(s) to the fairgrounds. All animals are subject to examination by officials of the Lyon County Fair. Any animal appearing diseased, emaciated or extremely unthrifty will not be accepted.

A plan to speed goat weighing and check-in is in the works, so please be sure to check for notices regarding any changes to weighing livestock on Friday, Aug. 5.

Sunday Family Fun at the Fair

Sunday, Aug. 7 will be a fun family day at the fair. The morning will be the swine show. This fun afternoon will coincide with the kids pedal tractor pull and will include food and fun. The 4-H Ambassadors are planning a livestock judging opportunity for youth and adults. Please be watching for more details as we will need all Lyon County 4-Hers and their parents helping welcome the Lyon County community to the fairgrounds for a fun Sunday evening.

Clean Up Your Livestock Stalls at the Fair

No matter what specie(s) a 4-Her exhibits at the Lyon County Fair, that 4-Her and his or her family is responsible for cleaning up the stall(s) after the premium sale and release time. If you do not clean up after your livestock, the fair board may withhold your premium money for your livestock.

Southeast Area Contests

June 16 – SE Area Livestock Contest

The area livestock judging contest will be hosted Thursday, June 16 in Yates Center. The contest consists of a skillathon, livestock judging and a meats contest. It's a great opportunity for those who are involved in



livestock projects to broaden their knowledge and have fun competing with others who share this interest. Registration is \$10 per person and includes all three contests and lunch (hamburger, chips, brownie and pop or tea). The contest is scheduled to be completed by 2 p.m. Please call the Extension Office to indicate your interest.

June 30 – SE Area Horticulture, Crops and Photography and Favorite Foods Contest

A great opportunity to participate in many contests hosted right here in Emporia. Cost is \$4 per person per contest. The day begins at 9:45 a.m. with registration for Horticulture, Crops and Photo Contests. All morning contests will be completed by noon, with the recognition at 1 p.m. Favorite Foods is hosted in the afternoon with registration from noon-1 p.m.

District Horse Show

The East Central Kansas District Horse Show is scheduled for July 5 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Lawrence. The show begins at 9:00 a.m. and includes the counties of Anderson, Coffey, Douglas, Franklin, Johnson, Linn, Lyon, Miami and Osage. Pre-entries must be postmarked by June 15, and the entry form can be picked up at the Extension Office or downloaded online at www.lyon.ksu.edu. You must be 9 as of Jan. 1, 2016 to participate and completed level testing required in your age division.

KJLS and KSF Information

June 15 – Livestock nominations for the Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show are due.

DNA and official 4-H ear tag numbers due for: Wether Dam Ewes and Commercial Ewes, Commercial Breeding Heifers, Market Lambs, Market Hogs, Commercial Gilts, and Meat Goats. Be sure to check the requirements online at www.youthlivestock.ksu.edu under the 2016 Nomination Update. DNA envelopes and nomination forms are available at the Extension Office. **Remember, a nomination is not an entry for the show.**

Friends of 4-H Picnic



The Friends of 4-H Picnic will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 28 in the Anderson Building. 4-H families are asked to bring: 1 vegetable/casserole dish, 1 salad, AND 1 dessert. Meat will be provided. The 4-H Council will provide tea, plates, and silverware. Please bring your food to the Anderson Building by 6:00 p.m. so serving can begin at 6:30 p.m.

Club assignments are as follows:

Picnic Set-up (Wednesday, July 27 at 6:00 p.m.):

Sunflower

Decorations: *Happy Harvesters*

Arrange/Serve Food: *Busy Beavers*

Drinks: *Chamness*

Trash: *Cloverleaf*

Table/Chair Clean-up: *Logan Avenue, Model Boosters*

Rinker, Reading

Floor Sweeping: *Riverside*

Fair Work Assignments

The club assignments for pre- and post-fair clean-up are as follows:

-Wednesday, July 27 – 6 p.m. Diner Clean up – *Riverside*

-Saturday, July 30 – 8 a.m. – Set up Anderson Building for judging – *Sunflower*

-Saturday, July 31 – 4 p.m. – Set up Anderson Building for Public Fashion Revue – *Busy Beavers*

-Monday, August 1 – 6 p.m. – Set up Anderson Building – *Happy Harvesters and all 4-H Superintendents*

-Monday, August 1 – 6 p.m. – Pick up trash on grounds – *Chamness, Cloverleaf Model Boosters, Logan Avenue*

-Tuesday, August 9 – 12:00 p.m. (noon) - Show arena pre-sale cleanup – *Reading* - Immediately following the sale – show arena cleanup – *Rinker*

-Thursday, August 11 – 7:30 a.m. *all 4-H superintendents* - Release exhibits and cleanup Anderson Building

-TBA - fair grounds clean up – *all clubs* - hamburger, chips and pop provided by the Fair Board.

2016 Kansas State Fair

The 2016 Kansas State Fair is September 9-18. In order to exhibit at the Kansas State Fair, 4-Hers must have turned 9 years old by Jan. 1, 2016. Livestock entries must have met nomination and entry deadlines. For all other projects, only purple ribbon winners are eligible to compete at the Kansas State Fair, with the exception of Visual Arts. Be sure to read the state fair guidelines as you may not be able to enter all items that received purple ribbons as some State Fair classes limit the number of items from each 4-Her. In the Visual Arts Division, the judges will select six exhibits for the State Fair. Even though Visual Arts exhibits are selected, they must still pre-enter. Visual Arts are for display and ribbon only, no premium money is awarded.

All State Fair pre-entries are due by 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 11. The pre-entry forms and a copy of the State Fair book will be available at the Fair Office

during the fair. Pre-entries will not be accepted at the Extension Office.

Base Price Livestock Checks

Base price livestock checks will be available on Saturday, August 27 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon or Wednesday, August 31 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the Fair Office. Checks will only be mailed if a stamped self addressed envelope is provided to the Fair Office during the fair.

4-H Council

4-H Council will meet June 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be held in the meeting room at the Extension Office. The July Council meeting will be held at the Extension Office on July 5, at 7:00 p.m. Fair tickets will have been distributed to club leaders for 4-Hers to begin selling June 23.

Lyon County Open Youth Rodeo/Horse Show

The 2016 Lyon County Open Youth Rodeo will be held on Saturday, June 11 at 2:00 p.m. Entry forms are available at the Extension Office. The Lyon County Open Horse Show will be held on Sunday, June 12 with registration beginning at 8:00 a.m. Information is available at the Extension Office.

Fair Ticket Sales

Fair tickets will be handed out on June 22. Club Leaders are encouraged to contact the Extension Office to set up a time to meet with a fair board representative to pick up club tickets on June 22. Money and excess tickets will be due back in the Fair Office, Wednesday, August 3 (schedule will be determined at the time of ticket distribution).

State 4-H Horticulture Judging

The State 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest is scheduled for Saturday, August 20. Once again, the contest will be held in Throckmorton Hall on the K-State Campus. Lyon County Extension Horticulturist Travis Carmichael will be working with 4-Hers interested in learning more about judging during the summer months. Be sure to call the Extension Office and let him know you are interested in participating in informational sessions. Information and study materials are available on the 4-H website at www.kansas4-h.org/p.aspx?tabid=442.

2016 LYON COUNTY FAIR 4-H SCHEDULE

Thursday, July 28

6:30 p.m. Friends of 4-H Picnic – Anderson Building

Friday, July 29

6:00 p.m. Dog Show – Anderson Building

Saturday, July 30

9:30 a.m. Clothing Construction & Construction Modeling, Boys & Girls Buymanship – Anderson Building

12:30 p.m. Photography, Home Environment, Rocketry, Forestry, Entomology, Geology, Leadership, Other Projects, Electrical & Fiber Arts Judging – Anderson Building

5:00 p.m. Public Fashion Revue – Anderson Building

7:00 p.m. Shooting Sports Awards Presentation – Anderson Building

Sunday, July 31

8:00 a.m. Horse Show – Arena

11:00 a.m. Hand Pet/Cat Show – Anderson Building

Thursday, August 4

4:00-5:00 p.m. Exhibit entry time for projects not conferenced judged or previously judged

5:00 p.m. Crops judging

5:30 p.m. Visual Arts, Foods, Horticulture, Floriculture, Metals, Woodworking, Reading & Banners – Anderson Building

Friday, August 5

(All animal entries in place by 6:30 p.m.)

3:00-6:00 p.m. Swine weigh-in

TBA Sheep Weigh-in

TBA Meat Goat Weigh-in

Saturday, August 6

7:00-8:00 a.m. Beef Weigh-in

8:00 a.m. Dairy Goat Show

9:30 a.m. Meat Goat Show

6:00 p.m. Sheep Show

Sunday, August 7

8:00 a.m. Swine Show

9:00 a.m. Poultry Show

TBA Cloverbuds Presentation

5:00 p.m. Kid's Pedal Tractor Pull, Public Livestock Judging Contest, Pee-Wee Showmanship

Monday, August 8

8:00 a.m. Rabbit Show

8:30 a.m. Beef Show

6:00 p.m. Bucket Calf Show

Tuesday, August 9

8:00 a.m. Round Robin

Following Round Robin - Animal exhibits released except those in the Livestock Sale

6:00 p.m. Premium Sale – Lyon County Fair Grounds – Show Arena

Wednesday, August 10

6:00 p.m. 4-H Rodeo – Grandstands

Thursday, August 11

7:30-9:30 a.m. All exhibits released from the Anderson Building

9:30 a.m. State Fair entries due – Fair Office



Lyon County Extension Agent
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 620-341-3220
brees@ksu.edu



Agriculture and Natural Resources

June-July 2016

Spring/Summer Pasture Weed Control

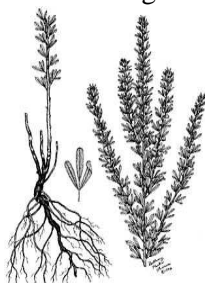
Late spring and early summer is a great time to work on pasture improvement, while you are able to check your livestock and also reduce undesirable plant species at the same time!

Two things to keep in mind when you are looking to work on the landscape: know what the plants are that you object to (are they really weeds, or are they actually good plants to have there), and know the appropriate way to safely remove them in the most efficient manner. Let's take a look at these items.

Know the objectionable species! I encourage you to take the time to identify what the plants are that are in your pasture or hay meadow, and determine if they are actually helping or hurting your production. I understand that many hay buyers see anything other than grass as a sign of poor quality, but many broadleaf plant species in the hay meadow are actually legumes that can fix a little nitrogen, thereby encouraging more grass growth.

Once the species are identified, can you find the best product(s) to control them? And just because the species is on the label, is it the best time of year to attempt to control the target species? For example, buckbrush may be on a 2,4-D label, but it is much more effective just as the plant reaches full leaf instead of waiting until mid-summer "when I have time to spray". Spraying too late, or when the species is too large, may still set the plant back but will probably not kill it.

Product selection based on the growth stage or and or time of year is very important with one of our most troublesome noxious weeds in the prairie, sericea lespedeza. Research has shown that spraying Remedy or PastureGard while the plant is in the vegetative stage and actively growing (usually in June and early July) is very effective at killing the plants that are currently emerged. Using Metsulfuron (Ally, Cimarron Plus, Escort XP, and others) when the plant is flowering (which is usually in September) has been very effective as well. 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 22K), or 2,4-D + dicamba. And remember, **always read and follow label instructions and cautions!**



22nd Annual Flint Hills Prairie Wildflower and Pasture Tour

June 9 is the date for the 2016 Wildflower and Pasture Tour near the Chase and Butler County lines. The Chase and Butler County Conservation Districts and Extension personnel have coordinated this event again this year. Reservations must be made by calling either Extension Office at 316-321-9660 or 620-273-6491, as there is limited attendance for the tour. The tour this year begins at 6:00 pm and will once again showcase the beauty of the area. Call now to reserve your space!

Field Crop Weed Control – what's it cost

Much like pasture weed control, having a good plan for your field crops is vital to the success of your farming operation. Almost 20 years ago, growing soybeans became much easier as the Roundup Ready program and glyphosate tolerant soybeans were introduced into the marketplace. Fast forward to 2016, and the list of plants tolerant to glyphosate continues to grow, and it is causing both ag retailers and producers to rethink their weed control programs.

As with any pest control program, too much reliance on any one product or mode of action will in time select for higher tolerances to that product, and ultimately result in species resistant to that chemistry. For quite some time growers have been encouraged to use multiple modes of action, or for certain rotate the modes of action for pest control to break a strong reliance on any one pest control product. This is frequently the case whether you are talking about herbicides, fungicides or insecticides, and with crops or livestock.

Be certain to know what you have that you don't want, and have a good idea what else will be affected, and how. Just as in pastures, many weed control products are very effective at a certain growth stage of the target pest. Once you get outside of that stage or plant size, the effectiveness diminishes. So be sure you know what you are targeting, what size it is, and what will be the most effective product for that target.

A study was released in May that showed that if left uncontrolled, weeds in corn and soybean fields in the U.S. and Canada alone would result in \$43 BILLION in economic losses. Just for 2 crops, in 2 countries. Weed control is very important!!

Youth Tractor Safety - Wamego

Occasionally we have youth (or their parents) contact us in early June asking when we are going to hold a tractor safety course. We have held out training session for many years in March – ahead of the time that producers need workers, and before the youth need to be certified to seek out employment opportunities. It is a federal requirement that youth 14-15 working for someone other than their parent or legal guardian must complete a tractor safety training course. Youth 16 or over are also encouraged to attend to improve their safety skills.

With that said, I received information there is a session in Wamego on June 7 & 8 hosted by 6 county extension offices along and north of I-70. If you would like information, give me a call at the office, 620-341-3220.

Something Different – Bison Workshop

If you are looking to add something a little different to your operation, this may be for you. Not that I am promoting bison, but there are individuals that are looking for a different option and this may be it!

There are six free bison advantage workshops scheduled this summer across the Midwest, with one scheduled on June 11 at Baldwin City. Register by calling the National Bison Association at 303-292-2833 or by email to jim@bisoncentral.com. More information can be found at www.bisoncentral.com.

Beef Cattle Welfare Symposium

Kansas State University will host the 5th International Symposium on Beef Cattle Welfare in Manhattan on June 8-10. The Organizing Committee has put together a remarkable program that will give you the opportunity to discuss, debate, and learn about the current and emerging welfare issues that face the beef cattle industry with today's beef cattle welfare experts. Distinguished beef experts, bovine practitioners, philosophers and animal scientists will offer their insight and perspective as well as discuss the latest research findings. In light of the ever-changing production practices keeping up with consumer demands, this symposium will be exclusively focused on welfare issues that are certain to impact and change the beef cattle industry.

Everyone is welcome to attend the International Symposium on Beef Cattle Welfare. A few of the featured speakers include Temple Grandin, Colorado State University; Joe Stookey, University of

Saskatchewan; Jeff Carroll, USDA-ARS, Texas Tech University; Ed Pajor, University of Calgary; Bernadette Earley, Teagasc Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation Centre in Ireland; Karen Schwartzkopf-Genswein, Agri-Food Canada; Ron Gill, Texas A&M University; Joe Regenstein, Cornell University; and Mike Apley, Kansas State University.

For more information and to register, see the upcoming events at www.beefcattleinstitute.org.

Tallgrass Range School August 16-18

The 2016 KS Range Schools are going to be held in August! It is time to start thinking about attending this year to learn more about range land management in a friendly, educational and informative setting with other ranchers, land managers, range management students and natural resource professionals. You can register at KGLC.org for the schools which cost \$350 per student which covers room, board and tuition for the 2 ½ day schools. Scholarships of \$175 are available for most ranchers and eligible college students while scholarships of \$125 are available for most natural resource agency personnel. The East or Tallgrass School is scheduled for August 16-18 at Camp Wood YMCA near Elmdale, KS.

The theme this year is “Be Prepared, using adaptive management to be ready”. Besides learning the plant identification, how to figure stocking rates, how to monitor vegetation response and the rest of basics needed to manage your rangelands, there will be ranchers and natural resource professionals talking with you about how to plan ahead for whatever nature or market forces bring to your ranching enterprise and how to respond to keep your rangeland health high and your livestock productive. Learn more at the KGLS website, KGLC.org, email barth.crouch@gmail.com or call 785-452-0780. Make this the year you attend the Kansas Range School!

Spring and Early Summer Scouting

With the weather we've been having there will be a lot of soybeans planted in the area in a short time once the soils dry a little. This can allow for some challenges in pest control, as the entire crop will be at approximately the same growth stage at the same time. I would urge all producers to be vigilant in scouting your fields – wheat, corn, soybeans and sorghum – especially for insect pests in the coming months. If you need help with identification or control guidelines, give me a call. I will try to share what I can about control timing, products and economic thresholds to keep pesticides effective.

2016 Emporia Garden Tour

The 2016 Emporia Garden Tour will be Saturday, June 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will be five sites on this year's tour and they are:

Mike and Ann Scheller
1929 Morningside Dr.

Duane and Jerilynn Henrikson
1924 Morningside Dr.

Wade and Wilma Malone
1768 Old Manor Rd.

Larrie and Lori Rainey
2317 Sunset Lake Dr.

David Traylor Zoo of Emporia
75 Soden Rd.

Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the Lyon County Extension Office or through any Lyon County Extension Master Gardener. Tickets will also be available the day of the tour at all the tour stops except for the David Traylor Zoo of Emporia. All proceeds support the Lyon County Master Gardener Education Fund.

Soil Testing

Before amending your soils or adding fertilizer before planting it is a good idea to have a soil test done. A soil test helps us understand what the pH, phosphorus, and potassium levels already are. If these levels are within recommended ranges for your crops, then we only recommend fertilizers with nitrogen. We will also inform you to be cautious on the amount of organic matter, peat moss and some other amendment you want to add to the soil as they can affect the pH level. The only element we normally do not test for is nitrogen. Nitrogen is easily leached out of the soil during watering or rain events. When giving soil recommendations we generally do recommend a nitrogen fertilizer.

Here are a few tips on collecting soil samples. If you follow these tips, then the results will be more representative of the overall area. When taking the samples, make sure that you are collecting soil to a depth

of 8 to 12 inches. This is to give a more representative sample in the roots zone. Take at least 10 samples from the area. Combine these samples in a clean bucket and mix them together. After mixing the samples together, select about a pint of soil and place it in a zip top container and bring it into the Extension Office to be sent off for testing. If you are doing more than one area, make sure to label your samples. When you bring the samples into the office, you fill out a form that gives some background information about the garden plot, landscape bed or lawn to help with recommendations when the results come back. Once the office obtains the results, you will then receive the results with recommendations for your area.

4-H and Open Class Exhibiting Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables Workshop

Selecting flowers, fruits and vegetables can be a difficult task, especially when it comes to selecting them for the county fair. If you have ever wondered what judges are looking for or you want to expand your knowledge on choosing good quality flowers, fruits, and vegetables this workshop is for you.

The workshop will take place on:

- July 13th at 7:00 pm for Exhibiting **4-H Flowers, Fruits and Vegetables**
- July 14th at 7:00 pm for Exhibiting **Open Class Flowers, Fruits, and Vegetables**

Both workshops will take place at the Lyon County Extension Office meeting room. If you would like to attend, please contact the Extension Office by July 8th.

Keep Mower Blades Sharp

With mowing season starting, we need to remember to keep the blades sharp on our lawn mowers. Dull blades will cause a whitish cast on our lawns. A dull blade does not cleanly cut the blade of grass; instead it shreds the end of the leaf blade. The whitish cast starts to appear as the shredded ends of the grass blade starts to dry out. A sharp mower blade is more important as the turf starts putting up the seed heads. Seed head stems are much tougher than the grass blades and more likely to shred. Under normal use, lawn mower blades should be sharpened every 10 hours of use.

Master Gardener Applications Available

Do you enjoy gardening? Do you want to learn more about plants and how they grow? If you answered yes to these two questions, then being a Master Gardener is for you. The Lyon County Extension Office will be accepting applications for individuals interested in becoming a Lyon County Extension Master Gardener from June 1st to August 5th. Once the applications are received, a letter with information about the orientation session and interview will be sent out to applicants. After the orientation session and interview, individuals will then be selected to go through the training process to become a Lyon County Master Gardener.

After being accepted into the Master Gardener program, all new trainees will attend roughly 40 hours of training. The training will take place every Thursday for 12 weeks starting September 8th. Classes will be held mainly in Newton, but will rotate between Emporia, Hutchinson, El Dorado, Haysville, and Hesston. There will be a Lyon County van traveling there and back on training days.

After the Master Gardener Trainee has completed the 40 hours of training, they are given one year to complete 40 hours of volunteer service and 5 hours of continuing education. After the first year, the Master Gardener will then have to complete 15 hours of volunteer service plus 5 hours of continuing education to remain an active member.

Lyon County Master Gardeners complete their volunteer hours by working in different demonstration beds throughout Emporia, helping at Sick Plant Clinics, 4-H/Youth events, helping in area schools promoting horticultural practices, having an informational booth at the Flint Hills Greener Living Show, educating school age children at Zoo Adventure and the Emporia Garden tour.

If you are interested in becoming a Lyon County Master Gardener, stop by the Extension Office to pick up an application or visit our website lyon.ksu.edu and click on the Master Gardener tab located on the left hand side of the website. Applications are due August 5, 2016 at 5:00pm at the Lyon County Extension Office.

Vinegar as a Herbicide

We often hear of home remedies that have not been scientifically tested. Vinegar has been suggested as an effective herbicide, but until recently it had not been studied for effectiveness. The USDA's Agricultural Research Service has finally put vinegar to the test. They used concentrations of varying strengths including 5, 10 and 20 percent. Household vinegar is close to a 5 percent

solution. Weeds tested included lambs-quarters, giant foxtail, velvetleaf, smooth pigweed and Canada thistle.

Weeds were hand-sprayed so that the leaves were uniformly coated with material. Young plants within the first two weeks of life were killed with the 5 and 10 percent solution. Higher concentrations provided 85 to 100 percent kill regardless of the size of the weed. Canada thistle proved to be exceptionally susceptible to vinegar. The 5 percent solution gave 100 percent kill of top growth. Vinegar sold as a herbicide is most often a 20% solution.

Note that all weeds tested were annuals except the thistle. Vinegar is not translocated, so it would burn the top growth of perennials but would be unlikely to kill established plants. Vinegar is commonly made from wine, cider or malt, though a wide variety of materials can be used. This study included only vinegar made from fruits or grains, so it conforms to organic farming standards.

Look for Bagworms in June

Most calls on how to control bagworms come in late July to early August when damage appears. Bagworms are difficult to control when they are that large. They are much easier to kill while small. Bagworms overwinter as eggs inside the dead female's bag. Young larvae normally hatch and emerge during mid to late May in Kansas. Now would be a good time to use control measures if you haven't already sprayed. However, make sure the bagworms are present by looking for a miniature version of the mature bagworm. Also, check to be sure the bagworms are alive before spraying. Predators and parasites can sometimes naturally control this pest.

Insecticides commonly used for controlling bagworms include acephate (Orthene), permethrin (numerous trade names), cyfluthrin (Bayer Vegetable and Garden Insect spray), bifenthrin (Bug Blaster II, Bug-B-Gon Max Lawn and Garden Insect Killer), lambda-cyhalothrin (Spectracide Triazicide, Bonide Caterpillar Killer) and spinosad (Conserve; Borer, Bagworm, Leafminer and Tent Caterpillar Spray; and Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew). Spinosad is an organic control that is very effective on this pest. Thorough spray coverage of foliage is essential for good control with any of these products.



Lyon County Extension Agent
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Family & Consumer Sciences



Thank You!

Thank you to all of those that helped with Walk Kansas Kick-off and Fat Bucks Buffet. I know that if I started to list everyone who helped me with Walk Kansas I would forget a name. So, I do thank all of you who helped with Walk Kansas, team captains, participants and volunteers. Thank you to those who helped prepare food and set up table and chairs. Thank you to the people that came and walked with me on Tuesday and took pictures of the events. A Big Thank you goes to Subway for being our corporate partner for Walk Kansas. Without the help and support of all of you this event wouldn't continue to grow.

Kids Cooking Camp (KidsaCookin')

June 9 and 10 RSVP by June 2nd

July 20 and 21 RSVP by July 13th

2 – 5 p.m. at the Lyon County Extension Office
(pickup child up by 5:15)

This two day camp is aimed at children 3rd grade complete to 5th grade. They will learn the art of menu planning, grocery shopping, and fun cooking skills to make complete meals for their family. Each student will go home with a meal that feeds 4-5 people each day. Sample menus could include Picky Eater Pasta, Garden Salad, Easy Bread Sticks, Peach Cobbler or Fun with Meat Balls. How many different ways can you serve meatballs? Food Safety, the art of freezing meals will also be covered during camp. We must have at least 5 people signed up to have class with a maximum of 12 people. A small registration fee of \$5.00 must be paid to hold your spot. Call 341-3220 for more information.



Unit Tour
Tuesday June 14th
8:00 a.m. to
Approx. 5:30 p.m.

We will visit Lindsborg! Come and experience Little Sweden. There are many winners and finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas at Lindsborg. We will start our day

at Hemslojd (Dala Horse Factory). Then enjoy time strolling Main Street looking into the Art Galleries, Reminiscent Antiques, Brick Street Gallery, or have coffee and pastry at The Old Grind, or the White Peacock.

Lunch: At the Swedish Crown.

Afternoon includes a tour of the historic Bethany Lutheran Church and listening to the hand crafted Tracker organ's 1145 pipes heralding age old music at the hands of a local organist. This will be a guided tour.

Next stop Birger Sandzen Memorial Art Gallery. Then as we load to go home we will make a stop at Coronado Heights. Great photo opportunity!!

Cost per person \$40.00 and lunch is included. We must have a minimum of 7 sign up to make the trip happen. RSVP by June 5th.

Community Service Project at 2016 Lyon County Fair

Lap quilts will be the service project for community organizations. Lap quilts should measure 42 inches on the diagonal. Lap quilts don't need to be quilted. Blankets and or quilts can be tied, quilted or can be just a plain blanket. We will be giving them to nursing homes and law enforcement this year. If you have more questions give me a call at the Extension Office. We will enter them on Saturday morning of Open Class judging. You may drop them off at the office any time. We will display them at the fair.

Fair Volunteers Needed:

We have had several volunteers retire over the last few years. We are in need of some generals and superintendents. We also need a Department Head for infants and children. If you can help in Anderson Building on Saturday morning August 6th from 8 to about noon, please call me. 620-341-3220.

Anderson Building Open Class and 4-H Superintendents meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 19th at 5:30 p.m. Plan on meeting at the Extension Office.

2016 Lyon County Fair
Open Class Spotlight Event of the Year
This event is Sunday Afternoon
“Ribs and Sides”

Sunday August 7th, 2016 3:00p.m.
Anderson Building

A typed recipe, with entrant’s name and address, must accompany entry and may be published. Entries must come in an insulated container, if necessary. Entries will be judged by a distinguished community person or persons.

Classes are Ribs: Mild, Medium, Hot.

Sides: Dessert, Salad, Vegetable

Prizes are available for 1st and 2nd place in all Six Categories.

See you at the fair August 3rd to the 13th.
Anderson Building will be open August 6th after 5 p.m. to August 10th at 9:30 p.m. Each unit member needs to have an entry so their unit gets 100 % participation.

Anderson Building Entries will be released on Thursday morning August 11th from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Superintendents can get in building at 7:00 a.m.

Your Chance to Serve!!

If you are interested in serving or becoming more involved, please consider serving on the Extension Council. 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. **Please contact us by Thursday, September 1st, 2016 to let us know of your interests on being placed on the ballot.**

Colored Canning Jars at the Fair

These are the recommendations put out from Karen Blakeslee at KSU. Don’t use the colored canning jars for exhibits at the fair. The explanation follows.

As most of you know, the Ball Canning jars are now available in blue and green colors to celebrate the 100th anniversary of these jars. While these are fun for people to use, I do not encourage them to be used for fair entries at the county/district fairs and at the State Fair. They should only use CLEAR canning jars for the fair.

Focus on Food Safety Myth Busters

Bacteria that can cause illness grow rapidly in the “danger zone” between 40 °F and 140 °F. Keeping a constant home refrigerator temperature of 40 °F is one of the most effective ways to reduce cases of listeriosis and other foodborne diseases. There are a lot of “myths” around temperature control, including that people can know the temperature of their refrigerator even without measuring it! This year the Partnership for Food Safety Education takes on consumer “myths” and ideas around the home refrigerator.

Myth:

I know my refrigerator is cold enough – I can feel it when I open it! Anyway, I have a dial to adjust the temperature.

Fact: Unless you have thermometers built into your fingers, you need to use a thermometer to ensure your refrigerator is at or below 40 °F. And that dial? Important, but it is not a thermometer!

As many as 43% of home refrigerators have been found to be at temperatures above 40 °F, putting them in the food safety “danger zone” where harmful bacteria can multiply and make you and your family sick!"

Myth:

Cross-contamination doesn’t happen in the refrigerator – it’s too cold in there for bacteria to survive!

Fact: Bacteria can survive and some can even grow in cool, moist environments like the refrigerator.!

In fact, *Listeria* bacteria can grow at temperatures below 40 °F! A recent study showed that the refrigerator produce compartment was one of the “germiest” places in the kitchen, containing *Salmonella* and *Listeria*. To reduce the risk of cross-contamination in your refrigerator:

- Keep fresh fruits and vegetables separate from raw meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs
- Clean up food and beverage spills immediately, and
- Clean your refrigerator regularly with hot water and liquid soap. Don’t forget to clean the refrigerator walls and the undersides of shelves!

Attention Unit Members
Fall Organizational Meeting
President’s Council Meeting

Friday September 2nd, 2016
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Extension Office Meeting Room

Return Service Requested

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

June

- 06 Master Gardener Meeting, noon, EMR
- 06 Ambassador Meeting, 6 pm, EMR
- 06 4-H Council Meeting, 7 pm, EMR
- 07 4-H Day Camp, 9 a.m., AB
- 09-10 Kids Cooking Camp, 2 – 5 p.m., EMR
- 11 Lyon County Open Youth Rodeo, 2 p.m., Fairgrounds
- 12 Lyon County Open Horse Show, 8 a.m., Fairgrounds
- 14 Unit Tour, 8 a.m.
- 15 KSF & KJLS Livestock Nominations Due
- 16 SE Area Livestock Contest, Yates Center
- 16 Hop To It Rabbit Club, 7 p.m., AB
- 18 Master Gardener Garden Tour, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- 19 Poultry Club Meeting, 1 p.m., EMR
- 21 Cloverbuds, 6 p.m., EMR
- 22 Fairboard hand out fair tickets to clubs
- 23 Counselors to 4-H Camp
- 24-27 Sunny Hills 4-H Camp, Rock Springs
- 30 SE Area Horticulture, Crops and Photography and Favorite Foods Contest, 9:45 a.m., AB

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

July

- 01 ALL 4-H FAIR PRE-ENTRIES DUE**
- 04 Independence Day – Extension Office Closed
- 05 4-H District Horse Show, 9 a.m., Lawrence
- 05 Ambassador Meeting, 6 p.m., EMR
- 05 4-H Council Meeting, 7 p.m., EMR
- 11 Master Gardener Meeting, 5:15 p.m., AB
- 13 Exhibiting 4-H Flowers, Fruits & Vegetables Workshop, 7 p.m., EMR
- 14 Exhibiting Open Class Flowers, Fruits & Vegetables Workshop, 7 p.m., EMR
- 17 Poultry Club Meeting, 1 p.m., EMR
- 19 4-H & Open Class Anderson Building Superintendents Meeting, 5:30 p.m., EMR
- 19 4-H Livestock Coordinators Meeting, 7 p.m., EMR
- 20-21 Kids Cooking Camp, 2 – 5 p.m., EMR
- 21 Hop To It Rabbit Club, 7 p.m., AB
- 28 Friends of 4-H Picnic, 6:30 p.m., AB

AUGUST 4 – 13 LYON COUNTY FAIR – SEE 4-H SECTION FOR 4-H SHOW DATES AND TIMES!