CUMBERLAND COUNTY

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER

Vol. 8 Issue 1 · January 2023

Nuisance Weed Spraying Program

This program consists of weed spraying demonstration plots. The department will provide the sprayer and enough chemical for the treatment of 10 acres of agricultural land or 100 gallons of spot spraying mix to be used on agricultural land. The department's representative will demonstrate proper mixing and application techniques. A number of nuisance weeds can be treated under this program depending on the needs of the participant. This program is limited to broadleaf weeds.

Broadcast Spraying demonstration plots consist of:

- 10 acres of agricultural land will be treated with chemical provided by the department
- Application is performed with a two-wheeled trailer type sprayer equipped with boomless nozzles
- If additional chemical is provided by the participant, an additional 10 acres can be treated

Spot Spraying demonstration plots consist of:

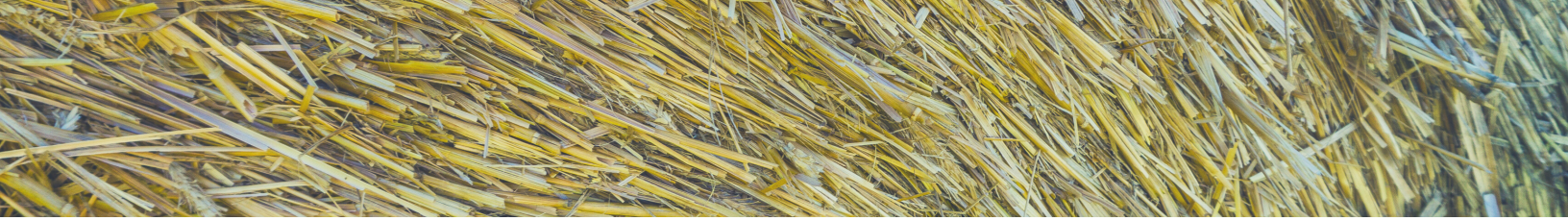
- 100 gallons of broadleaf chemical mix which is applied until sprayer is empty
- Application is performed with a two-wheeled trailer type sprayer equipped with a handheld spray wand used by the tractor operator
- If additional chemical is provided by the participant, an additional 100 gallons can be sprayed

For each demonstration:

- The participant must provide water source
- The participant must provide tractor and operator
- All chemical products must be labeled and the product label will be strictly followed
- A maximum of 7 participants per county

This program is designed to target weeds that have a negative impact on the participant's agricultural production. **To sign up, please contact the Cumberland County Extension Office at (270) 433-7700.**

This issue:



Forage Timely Tips: January

BY: KENTUCKY FORAGE NEWS

- Continue strip-grazing of stockpiled tall fescue for maximum utilization.
- Remove animals from very wet pastures to limit pugging and soil compaction.
- Feed your best hay to animals with highest nutritional needs.
- Supplement poor quality hay as indicated by forage testing.
- Feed hay in areas where mud is less of a problem.
- Feed hay in poor pastures to increase soil fertility and enhance organic matter.
- Consider “bale grazing” – set out hay when the ground is dry or frozen. Use temporary fencing to allocate bales as needed.
- Use variety trial results to select seed for spring renovation.
- Prepare for pasture renovation by purchasing seeds, inoculant, etc. and getting equipment ready.

Upcoming Events at CCEO

JANUARY

- Cake Decorating: January 23rd, 5:30pm, at CCEO, Registration Required
- Modern Homesteading (Sewing Class): January 27th, 9am, at CCEO, Registration Required

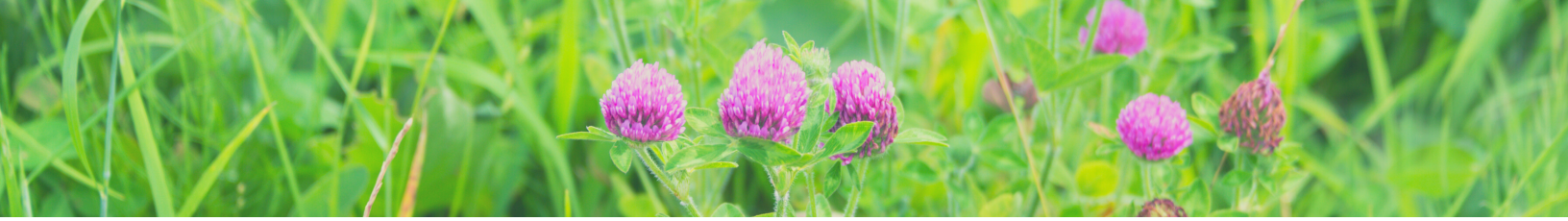
FEBRUARY

- House Plants Group: February 6th, 10am, at CCEO
- Cumberland County Gardeners: February 8th, 10am, at CCEO
- Sheep and Goat Production Meeting: February 13th, 5:30pm, at CCEO, Registration Required
- Private Applicator Training: February 21st, 5pm, at CCEO, Registration Required

MARCH

- House Plants Group: March 6th, 10am, at CCEO
- Cumberland County Gardeners: March 8th, 10am, at CCEO
- Clinton-Cumberland Cattlemen's Association (Spring Meeting): March 23rd, 6pm, at CCEO, Registration Required

For more information or to register, please contact the Cumberland County Cooperative Extension Service at (270) 433-7700.



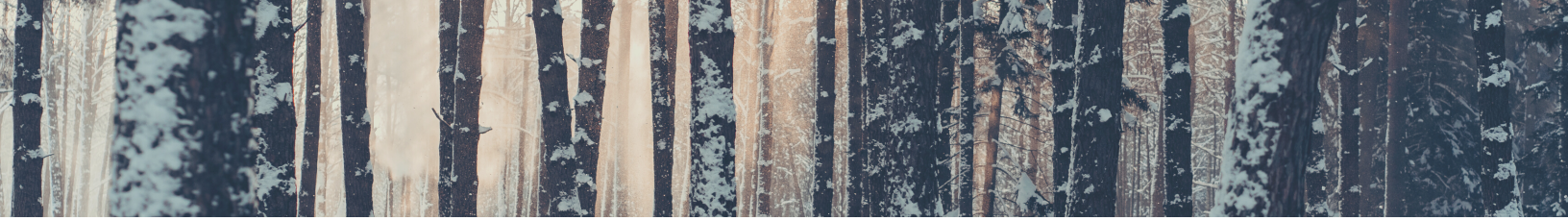
Frost Seeding Clover: A Recipe for Success

BY: KENTUCKY FORAGE NEWS

Legumes are an essential part of a strong and healthy grassland ecosystems. They form a symbiotic relationship with Rhizobium bacteria in which the bacteria fix nitrogen from the air into a plant available form and share it with the legume. Clover also increases forage quality and quantity and helps to manage tall fescue toxicosis. In the past, the positive impact of clover on tall fescue toxicosis has always been thought to simply be a dilution effect, but new research from the USDA's Forage Animal Production Unit in Lexington shows that compounds found in red clover can reverse vasoconstriction that is caused by the ergot alkaloids in toxic tall fescue. The primary compound found in red clover is a vasodilator called Biochanin A. Clover stands in pastures thin overtime due to various factors and require reseeding every three to four years. There are several techniques for reintroducing clover into pastures including no-till seeding, minimum tillage, and frost seeding. Of these techniques, frost seeding requires the least amount of equipment and is the simplest to implement. Frost seeding is accomplished by broadcasting clover seed onto existing pastures or hayfields mid to late winter and allowing the freezing and thawing cycles to incorporate the seed into the soil. This method works best with red and white clover and annual lespedeza. It is NOT recommended for seeding grasses or alfalfa. This publication covers the important factors for successful frost seeding. Find this and related publications at the UK Forage Website under the "establishment" tab.
https://forages.ca.uky.edu/establishment

Frost Seeding at a Glance (from the new pub.)

- Legumes are an essential part of sustainable grassland ecosystems.
- Overseeding may be required to maintain and thicken stands.
- Frost seeding is the simplest method for reintroducing clover back into pastures.
- Control broadleaf weeds fall prior to frost seeding.
- Soil test and apply any needed lime or fertilizer before frost seeding.
- Suppress the existing sod and reduce residue with hard grazing in the fall and winter.
- Choose well adapted varieties of red and white clover using the UK forage variety testing data.
- Calibrate seeder and check spread pattern.
- Broadcast 6-8 lb/A of red clover and 1-2 lb/A of white clover that has been inoculated in mid-February (no later than early March).
- Control competition from existing grasses by grazing pastures in short intervals until clover seedlings become tall enough to be grazed off.
- Put pasture back into your regular rotation once seedlings reach a height of 6-8 inches.



The Depths of Winter

BY: TONY EDWARDS, NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

When asking Kentuckians to reminisce about the worst winter storm they can remember, what comes to mind likely varies by region. Those in the west will likely recall the Ice Storm of 2009 when ice up to two inches thick coated everything and the power was out for weeks. Those in the Bluegrass will likely think back to January 1994, when one to two feet of snow fell, then an arctic blast sent temperatures plunging to a state record of 37 below zero in Shelbyville. Those in east Kentucky will likely recollect the Blizzard of 1993 when heavy snow and strong winds whipped up snow drifts of six to ten feet and temperatures plunged below zero.

While the likelihood that a similar winter storm will occur in your region this winter is remote, it does beg the question - are you ready if it does?

Probably the most effective step you can take at home to make it through the worst that winter can bring is assembling an Emergency Kit.Your kit should contain, at a minimum, 72 hours worth of food, water and prescription medications for everyone in your household, including your pets! If you heat with electricity, it's also important to ensure you have an alternate heat source. If that alternate heat source is a wood stove, make sure the chimney is clean before building a fire.

In severe winter storms, even venturing out to the barn to tend to the animals can be life-threatening! Horses and other animals struggle in severe winter conditions and will likely consume more hay than normal. Water sources will freeze up and require constant chopping of holes in the ice so animals can drink. Firewood stores will also be consumed quickly and propane may run out. These are just a few hardships to plan for.

Here are some more tips to remember when winter turns especially harsh:

- Stay dry to stay warm! Wet clothes result in much faster heat loss.
- Wear multiple layers. Trapped air between loose fitting clothing helps to insulate you from the cold. Wool keeps you warmer than cotton because wool fibers trap air pockets and when wool is exposed to damp conditions, it wicks moisture away from your skin and helps keep you dry. Also, try to use an outer layer that is water resistant.
- Cover everything you can! Wear mittens or gloves and a hat. At least half your body heat can be lost if your head isn't covered.
- Stay informed on the latest weather forecasts.

Finally, it's important to know the signs that someone is getting too cold. Hypothermia is a medical emergency that occurs when your body loses heat faster than it can produce it. Confusion, shivering, difficulty speaking, sleepiness and stiff muscles are all signs of hypothermia and signs that medical attention is urgently needed.

Preparing for the worst storm that may affect your area means you are well prepared for all of the less severe winter storms that will most assuredly come this winter, and you can sit back and enjoy the beauty of open country covered in a blanket of white.

eXtension Poultry Webinars

The upcoming webinar schedule is:

- Reproductive issues with small and backyard poultry flocks (February 7, 2023 @ 3 PM Eastern)
- Raising turkeys in small and backyard flocks (March 7, 2023 @ 3 PM Eastern Time)
- Daily management of a home poultry incubator (April 4, 2023 @ 3 PM Eastern Time)
- Hatching waterfowl eggs in a home incubator (May 4, 2023 @ 3 PM Eastern Time)
- Doing fecal flotations for the identification of intestinal parasites in poultry (June 6, 2023 @ 3 PM Eastern Time) – The day is subject to change due to the availability of the speaker
- Sanitizing in a poultry house (August 1, 2023 @ 3 PM Eastern Time)
- Organizing a county poultry show (September 5, 2023 @ 3 PM Eastern Time)
- Respiratory issues with poultry (October 3, 2023 @ 3 PM Eastern Time)
- Designing a small flock poultry house (November 7, 2023 @ 3 PM Eastern Time)
- Managing a poultry flock on pasture (December 5, 2023 @ 3 PM Eastern Time)

To register and attend the webinars above visit the link below and see upcoming events on the right hand side.
https://afs.ca.uky.edu/poultry

Recordings from all past webinars are available at PAST WEBINARS – Small and backyard poultry (extension.org)

We also have a YouTube channel - @poultryextension - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRMPDhvzuDXb2sjDTF3Tj7w

And a Facebook page at:
https://www.facebook.com/poultryextension

Winterizing Your Hives

BY: TAMMY HORN POTTER, PH.D.,
KENTUCKY STATE APIARIST

During the winter, hives will go into winter cluster and metabolize honey to thermoregulate during the cooler temperatures.

When honey is metabolized, the carbon dioxide will sink to the bottom of the hive and exit through the entrance. If snow or ice covers the entrance, beekeepers should try to open the entrances as soon as it is safe for beekeepers to reach the hives. Don't put yourself in harm's way.

As the carbon dioxide sinks down, the water produced by metabolizing honey tends to rise. So, hives need to have an upper entrance or some type of ventilation so the moisture can escape. If the moisture cannot escape, it may pool on the inner cover and then rain down on the bee cluster, causing the bees harm.

As an added precaution, beekeepers may want to slightly tilt their hives during winter so that any moisture that does not escape in the top can drain through the front.

Tammy Horn Potter, Ph.D.
Kentucky State Apiarist
Kentucky Department of Agriculture
109 Corporate Drive
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 229-2950

University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Potato Broccoli Soup

RECIPE FROM PLATE IT UP KENTUCKY PROUD

- 4 cups cubed potatoes
- 2 heads broccoli, (3-4 cups florets)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup melted butter
- 3 cups 2% milk
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 5 ounces cheddar cheese, reduced-fat, shredded
- 2 green onions, finely minced, divided
- 1/2 cup reduced-fat sour cream
- 1/4 cup bacon bits (optional)

Directions: Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Place potatoes in large saucepan, cover with water and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and cook potatoes until tender, about 15 minutes. Cut broccoli heads into small florets and place on baking tray. Drizzle with olive oil and roast for 15 minutes. Drain cooked potatoes in a colander. In the saucepan, combine the flour and melted butter; cook on medium heat for 1 minute. Slowly add milk to the mixture, stirring constantly until thickened. Soup can be thinned by adding an additional 1/2 cup of milk or water, if desired. Add the potatoes, broccoli, salt, pepper, cheese, half of the green onions and bacon bits. Cook on low until heated. A few minutes before serving, add the sour cream and stir to combine. Serve topped with remaining onions.

Nutritional Analysis: 390 calories; 24 g fat; 13 g saturated fat; 60 mg cholesterol 370 mg sodium; 30 g carbohydrate; 3 g fiber; 9 g sugars; 15 g protein

Yield: 6, 1 1/4 cup servings

Chelsey Anderson
Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources

(270) 433-7700

capick3@uky.edu

Cumberland County Extension Office
90 Smith Grove Rd
Burkesville, Kentucky 42717-0039

If you no longer want to receive this newsletter, please call the office to cancel.