

Over the Back Fence

Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Newsletter

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THANK YOU goes out to the Harrison County Community Foundation for the grant to fund our rain garden. Another thank you to the members of the Harrison County Master Gardeners, Inc. for all of their hard work in planting. We are so excited to see this project progress!

Purdue Extension Harrison County

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Educator's Editorial

Happy Harvest!

The end of another growing season is here with many of you having bountiful harvests.

Extension is seeing many opportunities to offer new or updated programming to many across the state. You might see more opportunities to join us virtually on your lunch hour, or from the cab of a tractor. We will still hold in person programs and look forward to seeing many of you over the busy months ahead!! Check out the opportunities we have available for you to learn this winter.

As always, thank you for all that you do.

Miranda C. Edge



Extension - Harrison County



Harrison County Master Gardener

Basic Training for 2022

14 Week Training
starting Tuesdays

February 1 through May 3

5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

- 2 hours of virtual state programming
- Local Connection Hour In-Person

**\$180 for individuals or
\$280 for couples**

**S
A
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E**

Register before
December 22nd
and SAVE \$80!

Registration Deadline: January 11

Contact **Miranda Edge**

Purdue Extension Harrison County

812-738-4236

247 Atwood Street

Corydon, IN 47112



Harrison County Master Gardener

Basic Training 2022

If you want to sharpen your gardening skills and you have an interest in sharing your knowledge with others, Purdue Extension has the ideal program for you.

Beginning February 1, 2022, a statewide Purdue Master Gardener Program training session will be offered. Both Floyd and Harrison Counties will be hosting the program. The Purdue Extension Master Gardener Program is a volunteer training program that provides a learning framework for participants to increase their knowledge on a wide variety of horticultural subjects. Participants will be exposed to a wide range of subjects including soil and plant science, diagnosis of plant problems, pesticide safety, and care of vegetable, flower, landscape, and fruit plants. In turn, participants commit to volunteer 40 hours of their time to be a certified Purdue Extension Master Gardener. As volunteers, participants grow by sharing knowledge while providing leadership and service in educational gardening activities within their communities.

The upcoming training will be offered virtually for 14 weeks on Tuesday nights. There will be a Local County Connection Hour also included each week. The cost of the program is \$180 per person or \$280 for two people sharing materials. Because this training is virtual, the registration process is a little different. Please contact Miranda Edge at Purdue Extension Harrison County to find out the specific steps to register. Miranda can be reached at 812-738-4236 or medge@purdue.edu. Due to the popularity of Master Gardener Training, classes fill up quickly. If you are interested in the program please reach out to Miranda Edge, ANR Extension Educator Harrison County. The deadline to register is **January 11th**.

**S
A
L
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Register before
December 22nd
and SAVE \$80!

Harrison County Master Gardener

Meetings and Workshops

These Harrison County Master Gardener workshops are FREE and open to the public! They each start at 6:30 PM and will be at the Purdue Extension Office at 247 Atwood Street in Corydon.



Bees & Blooms

Thursday, November 18, 2021

6:30 PM

Presented by Scott Oliver

What's New with Daylillies

Thursday, December 16, 2021

6:30 PM

Presented by Ron Byerley



Beginning Farmer Virtual Series

Starting January 13

Save the Date! This program walks through a farm planning workbook that will help a farmer determine their mission and vision, define their assets, set goals, and outline activities to achieve their goals. The objective of this program is to help farmers get organized, not waste money and resources so that they can focus their efforts on creating successful and viable farm enterprises. Check our next newsletter or go to www.purdue.edu/dffs/beginningfarmer/ for upcoming information!

Digging Deeper into Land Leases

Building Successful & Equitable Land Lease Agreements from the Ground Up

You're Invited to the virtual program DIGGING DEEPER INTO LAND LEASES! Individuals can either participate on Nov. 16th from 6:30 – 8:30 pm EST / 5:30-7:30 pm CST or Nov. 18th from 10:00 am -12:00 pm EST / 9:00 – 11:00 am CST. The cost of the program is \$25 per family/farm/household. Individuals can register at: <https://cvent.me/gmRR08>

The program will help individuals:

- Identify the various lease tools available
- Understand the impact soil can have on a lease
- Learn about farm land leasing trends
- Discover how to protect yourself when unexpected events occur

Attorney Anthony Crowell, Gordon & Associates, will be assisting with program delivery

Check Your PARP Status

Pesticide Section Contact Information

- **Checking Your Status Online**

inplants.oisc.purdue.edu/USAPlantsIN/Index.aspx.

- **General Pesticide Licensing information and questions, including continuing education for commercial applicators(CCHs) and private applicators (PARP)**

Cassie Davis, 765-494-9563, davil090@purdue.edu

- **Farmers and Restricted Use Pesticide Dealers**

Laura Fritz, 765-494-6271, lfritz1@purdue.edu

- **Commercial Applicators and Businesses**

Jill Davis, 765-494-1594, davisjs@purdue.edu

FORAGE FORUM FRIDAYS ROUND 2

Join Purdue and Industry
Forage Specialist as we
dive even deeper into the
world of forages!



**PLEASE REGISTER AT:
tinyurl.com/ExtFFF**

*If you registered for the first round back in
March 2021, you do not need to register again.*

DECEMBER 3, 2021 @ 12:00 PM EST
**Forage seed production and
Inventory Update**

December 8, 2021*

this will be an in-person session around Indiana

Forage PARP

6:30 - 8:30 PM EST

Featuring

**Marcelo Zimmer- Purdue Weed
Specialist**

**Dr. Christian Krupke- Purdue
Entomology Specialist**

\$10 for PARP credits

December 10, 2021 @ 12:00 EST

**What happens to my hay when I
send it in for hay test?**

**Stay tuned for more sessions
in January and February 2022**

Diversified Farming and Food Systems



INDIANA
SMALL FARM
CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE!

March 3 - 4, 2022

Hendricks County Fairgrounds
Danville, Indiana



PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

2021-2022 Indiana Beef Cattle Association (IBCA) and Purdue Area 2 Beef Meeting

- WHEN:** Saturday, December 18th, 2021 – 12:00 p.m.
- WHERE:** Spring Mill Inn, Spring Mill State Park, Mitchell, IN
- WHY:** The meetings will feature great food and valuable information on a variety of beef topics. IBCA will provide an update on current policy and programs. Purdue Dept. of Animal Science will provide the educational presentation.
- HOW:** RSVP to the Lawrence County Extension Office at 812-275-4623 by 12/7/2021.

The counties in this AREA are: Clark, Crawford, Floyd, Harrison, Lawrence, Orange, Scott and Washington.

Current IBCA Director: Steve Ritter

Sponsors:

HOOSIERENERGY

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution.

A Clover Quandry

By: Amber Friedichsen, *Forage News*, University of Kentucky

Planting clover in mixed grazing systems has many benefits, such as adding nutritional value to livestock diets, reducing the effects of toxic endophytes in fescue, and fixing nitrogen in the soil. The latter is arguably clover's most notable attribute, but how much should you seed to meet your pasture's nutrient needs? Jimmy Henning with the University of Kentucky referred to this question as "The clover dilemma" at the Heart of America Grazing Conference in Mt. Vernon, Ill. He presented research that examined how clover's ability to fix nitrogen can positively impact grass yields and how to manage this legume to see these effects.

Nutrient transfer

Henning explained that nitrogen fixed by legumes is transferred to grass, but these two processes do not happen at the same time. Grass yields are related to legume content from prior growing seasons. "There is not much direct transfer of nitrogen from legume to the grass," Henning asserted. "There is some transferred directly, and it's measurable, but it's not the amount of nitrogen we have historically associated with clover in forage systems."



Henning said that the best way to transfer nitrogen from legumes to grass in pastures is via livestock, and this happens over time. Clover fixes nitrogen in nodules on its roots. When animals graze the plant and remove top growth, nodules will slough off and contribute nitrogen to the soil. Additionally, the nutrient will be redistributed to grass as urine and manure. Therefore, grass yields improve as legume content rises, as well as when mixed stands get older. Henning referenced a study from Iowa State University that examined grass yields of fifth- and sixth-year mixed stands with 11% to 55% legume content. The research showed grass yields rose proportionally with legume percentage, although the average was 33%.

A Clover Quandry

By Wendy Mayer, Communications Coordinator



Fixation versus fertilizer

This led to Henning's next question – how much legume is required to boost grass yields instead of applying chemical fertilizers? To answer this, he referred to a study from Virginia Tech that compared the yields of three stands of fescue: one applied with nitrogen fertilizer, one mixed with clover, and one mixed with alfalfa. “The study was able to duplicate the yield of fescue plus nitrogen with fescue plus clover, and it was actually able to increase yield with fescue plus alfalfa. But the percent of legume in the stands was 53% and 59%, respectively,” Henning summarized. “So how much clover is enough? A bunch.”

Supplementing a mixed stand with nitrogen fertilizer can be beneficial. Henning said administering moderate amounts of nitrogen in the spring can help enhance grass yields. However, he advised against nitrogen application during a legume's establishment year.

“Sometimes applying nitrogen might be one of those options you need to consider,” Henning stated. “The clover will just take a break – it will turn down the factory that is making nitrogen and will just take the nitrogen that you give it. When this nitrogen goes away, clover will start fixing the nutrient again.”

Herbicide concerns

Another aspect of the clover dilemma producers face is applying herbicides to eliminate broadleaf weeds. This practice would kill legumes, but Henning suggests the consequence might be worth the trade-off. If weeds are taking over clover, it may be more profitable to sacrifice the clover stand temporarily. Grass yields ultimately depend on the productivity of companion legumes. A positive outcome of killing clover by applying herbicide is that there is a burst of nitrogen released to the soil, allowing grass in the stand to have immediate access to it.

Overall, Henning advised producers to maintain 30% to 50% of legume by relative dry weight in their mixed stands year after year. Over time, this grass-to-legume ratio has the potential to support yields similar to those of stands where nitrogen fertilizers are applied and contribute to a higher economic return.

Goat Grazing Could Be Option for Invasive Species Removal

By Wendy Mayer, Communications Coordinator



Prescribed or targeted grazing has been used on Western rangelands for many years to manage range weeds and is also used to reduce fuel and maintain fire breaks in high fire hazard areas. It has also been used in the south to help control kudzu.

In a recent study, Purdue Extension forester **Ron Rathfon** tested goat grazing as a method to control a continuous stand of mature, dense multiflora rose in the understory of one of the timber stands at the Southern Indiana Purdue Agricultural Center (SIPAC). After the steep slope resisted a few rounds of prescribed fire and conventional methods like cutting and spraying were deemed impractical due to the terrain and the thick growth of thorny rose, Rathfon decided to give the animals a try at reducing the invasive species.

The results of Rathfon's five-year experiment were recently published in the journal *Restoration Ecology* (Volume 29, Issue 4, May 2021) in an article titled "Effects of prescribed grazing by goats on non-native invasive shrubs and native plant species in a mixed hardwood forest." Rathfon co-authored the publication with professor of forest ecology Dr. Mike Jenkins, and master's degree alumna Skye Greenler.

Although prescribed grazing is not new, no research has been published demonstrating its use for invasive brush species management in eastern hardwood forests and quantifying its impacts on native vegetation," Rathfon explained. "The goal was to test the use of the goats to control invasive woody brush species as a first step in restoring degraded hardwood forests. I anticipated the goats would reduce understory plant cover. What I didn't know is how long it would take or whether native vegetation would be more severely impacted than the targeted invasive plants."

To read the rest of this article, go to extension.purdue.edu/harrison



Native Habitat Alerts

Stink Bugs- Is this another plague? Just a change in the season.

By Miranda Edge, CED/ANR Extension Educator

It sure seems like we're in the midst of yet another plague of obnoxious pests, and this one invades houses! Thankfully, it is not a plague, unfortunately, it's a yearly occurrence when we reach the Fall season.

There are several species of stink bugs that survive in southern Indiana including the Green stink bug.



Figure 1. Green Stink Bug (Native)

It seems like in recent years, we have seen an increase in the number of stink bugs that invade our houses around September. This is most likely due to an increase in the invasive stink bug species, Brown Marmorated stink bug. To reduce their numbers, it's important to understand their habits and food sources.



Figure 2. Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (Invasive)

Stink bugs reproduce and eat all summer, sucking plant juices from vegetation like berries, young trees, corn, alfalfa, and wheat then laying their eggs on the underneath side of leaves. They start their hibernation process around September, looking for warm, humid locations... like our homes.

Luckily, the stink bug does not structurally damage houses like termites, but they do get their name from the smell that resonates if they are stressed or squished.

So, how do they enter our houses? Like many other pests, they look for cracks and holes around doors and windows, in screens, eaves, vents and air conditioners. Pretty much anywhere they will fit. You'll notice them mostly on walls, in curtains, or in crevices and corners with little attention. It goes to say; your first line of defense is to check these points of entry and seal any holes and cracks you find.



Other control methods include: removing food sources like open containers or leafy vegetables on the counter. Outside the house, clean up and cultivate your garden, removing wilted and dead plants which harbor hibernating insects and unhatched eggs. Clean up weeds and plant clutter in landscaping, especially around the house.

Inside, vacuum often and remove the bag or empty the container outside. As we said before, they get their name due to the smell that's given off if squashed, so it is probably not in your best interest to use this tactic. On plants, simply spraying off the bugs, physically can help reduce plant feedings and eggs laid. Adding a bit of dish soap can help by dehydrating the exoskeleton of the stink bug.

If you are interested in essential oils, mint and lavender oils can be deterrents. Neem oil sprayed on house plants can help keep stink bugs from returning. Sacrifice plantings away from gardens and house landscapes can help by drawing the bugs to them and away from your residence. They are attracted to plants like yellow sunflower, mustard, millet, and garlic.

If you have an extreme invasion inside your house, it is best to contact a pest control company to help with massive number of pests. If you have other questions about stink bugs or other fall gardening tips, please contact the Purdue Extension Office of Harrison County at 812-738-4236 or medge@purdue.edu. Reference articles from pest.org and pestworld.org.

Webinars

Insights From Consumer Research That You Can Take Home to the Farm

Wednesday, November 17, NOON EST

What consumer-derived lessons can we draw from non-traditional places to garner understanding and insights for those in agricultural business? Dr. Nicole Widmar, Purdue University, will be presenting about Consumer Corner, where they derive insights from the consumer that you can take home to the farm!

purdue-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwpdOuhqToiGt2DG DfmEeonxiktaybBXvzH

Strengthening the Farm

December 8th, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM EST

Join us on the second Wednesday of each month to discuss topics such as Record Keeping, Farm Stress, Succession Planning, Marketing your Products, and more.

bit.ly/2XD6b4r

Youth Livestock 101 Series

A ONCE A MONTH HANDS-ON SERIES ON LIVESTOCK

For ALL youth in grades 5 - 12

RSVP two weeks prior to the date of the program. For more information please contact Miranda Edge at 812-738-4236 or medge@purdue.edu

Dec 1

Nutrition
Ruminants

Ramsey



Dec 15

Reproduction
Cattle

Elizabeth



Jan 12

Reproduction
Pigs & Horses

Virtual



Feb 12

Nutrition
Poultry & Rabbits

Leavenworth



March 10

Reproduction
Sheep & Goats

Corydon



April 14

Health
Hoof Care,
Casteration &
Careers

TBA



May TBA

Health
Wounds, 1st Aid,
Careers

Leavenworth



July 21

Meat & Textiles
Meat Quality
Textiles with Llamas

Multiple Locations



Sept 22

Forages
Grazing,
Hay Quality,
Temporary
Fencing

Corydon



Youth Opportunities

Livestock 101 Series

Create & Learn with 4-H!

Interested in animal reproduction? This is an excellent hands-on workshop for youth in 6th through 12th grade! Discover artificial insemination in sheep while learning about anatomy, physiology, genetics, and selection. Class size is limited. Call 812-738-4236 or email Miranda Edge at medge@purdue.edu for more information!



Junior Master Naturalist & Naturalist Camp

Summer 2022

Indiana Master Naturalist (IMN):

The Junior Indiana Master Naturalist (JrIMN) Program is a great program for youth ages 9-12 to learn about Hoosier natural resources. JrIMN provides children w/many hands-on opportunities, nature discovery and volunteer service. Classes are typically held in the summer as day camps.

Check out the Junior and Teen IMN class list at stateparks.IN.gov/6323.htm.

Area II 4-H Camp

June 3 - 5

If your child is a 4-H member and is in the 3rd through 8th grade, be sure to mark your calendars for Area II 4-H Camp on June 3rd through 5th at the Country Lake Retreat Center in Clark County. Exciting details are still in the works, but you can check out the Country Lake Website for pictures and description of the facilities at countrylake.org.



Beef Quality Assurance

BQA Trainings and certification is now required for beef producers selling fed cattle that are processed by many of today's major packers.



Beef Producers - BQA Certification Trainings are scheduled for those needing to recertify or earn first time certification.

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) training and certification is now required for beef producers selling “fed cattle” (finished beef steers and heifers coming out of a feedlot) that ultimately are processed by many of today’s major packers. BQA certification is good for 3 years and the program is free to producers either in the face-to-face or on-line formats.

2 locations close to home are set for Thursday, November 4 OR Thursday, December 2 - both are 6:30-9 p.m. @ Southern Hills Church, 1645 S St Rd Hwy 135, Salem, IN 47167.

Location	Date/Time	RSVP & Contacts for Questions
Southern Indiana Purdue Agricultural Center (SIPAC) Conference Room, 11371 E. Purdue Farm Road, Dubois, IN 47527	Mon., Nov. 1, 6:30-9:00 p.m.	Kenny Eck (Purdue Extension, 812-482-1782) and Jason Tower (SIPAC, 812-678-4427), Nick Minton (Purdue Extension, 812-279-4330)
	Mon., Nov. 29, 6:30-9:00 p.m.	
Fulton County Extension Office 1009 W. Third St., Rochester, IN 46975-7119	Tues., Nov. 2 6:30-9:00 p.m.	Ron Lemenager (Purdue Extension, 765-427-5972), Mark Kepler (Purdue Extension, 574-223-3397)
	Tues., Nov. 9 6:30-9:00 p.m.	
Southern Hills Church 1645 S St Rd Hwy 135 Salem, IN 47167	Thurs., Nov. 4, 6:30-9:00 p.m.	Purdue Extension (Danielle Walker, 812-883-4601 and Ophelia Davis, 812-275-4623), Nick Minton (Purdue Extension, 812-279-4330)
	Thurs., Dec. 2, 6:30-9:00 p.m.	
Southeast Purdue Ag Center 4425 County Rd 350 N, Butlerville, IN 47223	Thurs., Nov. 11, 6:30-9:00 p.m.	Jill Andrew-Richards (Purdue Extension, 812-438-3656), Nick Minton (Purdue Extension, 812-279-4330)
Creighton Hall – Purdue Dept. of AnSc, Rm 1042. 270 S Russell St, West Lafayette, IN 47907	Tues., Nov. 16, 6:30-9:00 p.m.	Ron Lemenager (Purdue Extension, 765-427-5972)
Stewart Seeds 2230 E. County Road 300 North, Greensburg, IN 47240	Thurs., Dec. 9, 6:30-9:00 p.m.	Jill Andrew-Richards (Purdue Extension, 812-438-3656), Nick Minton (Purdue Extension, 812-279-4330)

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ANR Newsletter



Extension - Harrison County

Over the Back Fence

Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Newsletter

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