

PURDUE EXTENSION

LAWRENCE COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER

ANR News:

CHANGES to borrowing Soil and Hay Probes from Ext. Office

Effective immediately, anyone who wishes to borrow a soil probe or hay probe from our Extension Office can still do so but the deposit amount has changed to **\$40 CASH** so please be aware of this and prepared when you come to our office to sign one out. We appreciate your understanding with this policy change. Thank you.

Indiana Hort Conference & Expo, January 19-20

The Indiana Horticultural Conference & Expo is Wednesday, January 19 – Thursday, January 20, 2022 in Indianapolis, IN. Register at <https://www.indianahortconference.org/>. The 2022 Conference Tracks are: Small Fruit Production (grapes, blueberries, brambles), Fruit Production (apples), Food Safety (FSMA, consumer), Fresh Vegetables (open field and high tunnel), Controlled Environment Agriculture (greenhouse, indoor vertical farming), Business/Marketing, Urban Ag Workshop, and Purdue Institute for Family Business Workshop.


Private Applicator Credits—December 9th @ Premier Ag in Mitchell

Lawrence County PARP

DATE/TIME
Date(s) - 12/09/2021
5:30 pm EST - 7:30 pm EST

CONTACT INFO
Name: Ophelia Davis
Title: ANR Educator
Phone: 812-275-4623
Email: odavis@purdue.edu

LOCATION
[Premier Ag](#)
District: Southeast
County: [Lawrence](#)
Address:
Premier Ag
1955 SR 37
Mitchell,



Event Details

Utilizing Multiple Modes of Action; Overlapping Residuals; Trait Platforms; Personal Protective Equipment

ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)

We are hiring!

If you, or someone you know, might be a good fit in the role of a Health and Human Sciences Educator then you might want to check out the position opening we have here in Lawrence County. You can find details about the position at <https://career8.successfactors.com/sfcareer/jobreqcareer?jobId=16818&company=purdueuniv>. Any questions can be directed to Lesley Lodmell, lodmell@purdue.edu.

Save the Date...!!

1. LCCA Annual Meeting—Saturday, February 5th @ St. Mary's in Mitchell—more info coming
2. “Breeding Better Bees” Webinar – Tuesday, March 24, 2022 at 6:30 pm. More information coming soon!

Indiana Farmland Prices Hit New Record High in 2021

Indiana farmland prices hit a new record high in 2021. Farmland price growth is driven by a combination of high expected incomes, low interest rates, and limited supply to satisfy demand. Read more here: <https://ag.purdue.edu/commercialag/home/paer-publication/2021-08-indiana-farmland-prices-hit-record-high-in-2021>

FORAGE FORUM FRIDAYS ROUND 2

Join Purdue and Industry
Forage Specialists 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 PM EST
**WHAT HAPPENS TO MY HAY WHEN I
SEND IT IN FOR A HAY TEST?**

**STAY TUNED FOR MORE
SESSIONS IN JANUARY
AND FEBRUARY 2022**

Purdue Extension

FoodLinkSM

FoodLinkSM is the resource for anyone who has ever stood in front of produce and wondered, “What is that?” or “What do I do with that?” Scan the FoodLinkSM QR codes on fresh fruits and vegetables to learn more about them, including how to select, prepare, and care for them.

FoodLink is an easy-to-use, produce database that delivers useful information regarding preparation and storage of different items, as well as nutrition facts, selection tips, food pairings, and background information. If you are looking for information about a specific fruit or vegetable, simply click on the respective tab at the top of the website, and select the item you’re looking for.

Visit the link here: <https://extension.purdue.edu/foodlink/>

Storing Vegetables and Fruits at Home

By: B. Rosie Lerner and Michael N. Dana, Purdue University, Horticulture Specialists

Length of storage for fruits and vegetables is a common question for Purdue Extension Educators. The Purdue publication HO-125-W, “Storing Vegetables and Fruits at Home,” provides details about storing. Topics in the publication include: conditions necessary for storage, temperature and humidity, home basements, pits, tile storage, and other storage methods. A table with information on a variety of fruits and vegetables is also included in the publication. A sample of this table is below.

Access HO-125-W at <https://ag.purdue.edu/hla/pubs/HO/HO-125.pdf>

Commodity	Freezing point (°F)	Temperature (°F)	Relative humidity (%)	Length of storage
Fruits				
Apple	29.3	30-40	90	3-8 months
Apricot	30.1	31-32	90	1-2 weeks
Blackberry	30.5	31-32	90-95	2-3 days
Blueberry	29.7	31-32	90-95	2 weeks
Cherry, Sour	29.0	32	90-95	3-7 days
Cherry, Sweet	28.8	30-31	85-90	2-3 weeks
Grapefruit	30.0	40-50	85-90	4-6 weeks
Grape	29.7	31-32	85	2-8 weeks
Orange	30.5	32-40	85-90	3-10 weeks
Peach	30.3	31-32	90	2-4 weeks
Pear	29.2	29-31	90-95	2-4 months
Plum	30.5	31-32	90-95	2-4 weeks
Raspberry	30.0	31-32	90-95	2-4 days
Strawberry	30.6	32	90-95	5-7 days

ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)**December Horticulture Calendar****Lawns, Tree Fruits, Landscape Plants, and Woody Ornamentals****December**

- Prevent bark splitting of young and thin-barked trees, such as fruit and maple trees. Wrap trunks with tree wrap, or paint them with white latex (not oil-based) paint, particularly on the south- and southwest-facing sides.
- Protect shrubs such as junipers and arborvitae from extensive snow loads by tying their stems together with twine. Carefully remove heavy snow loads with a broom to prevent limb breakage.
- Protect broadleaves, evergreens or other tender landscape plants from excessive drying (desiccation) by winter sun and wind. Canvas, burlap or polyethylene plastic screens to the south and west protect the plants. Similarly, shield plants from salt spray on the street side.
- Provide winter protection for roses by mounding soil approximately 12 inches high to insulate the graft union after plants are dormant and temperatures are cold. Additional organic mulch such as straw compost or chopped leaves can be placed on top.

Indoor Plants and Activities**December**

- Check houseplant leaves for brown, dry edges, which indicates too little relative humidity in the house. Increase humidity by running a humidifier, grouping plants or using pebble trays.
- Extend the lives of holiday plants such as poinsettias and Christmas cactus by placing them in a cool, brightly lit area that is free from warm or cold drafts.
- Houseplants may not receive adequate light because days are short and gloomy. Move plants closer to windows, but avoid placing foliage against cold glass panes. Artificial lighting may be helpful.
- Because growth slows or stops in winter months, most plants will require less water and little, if any, fertilizer.

- If you are forcing bulbs for the holidays, bring them into warmer temperatures after they have been sufficiently precooled. Bulbs require a chilling period of about 10 to 12 weeks at 40 degrees F to initiate flower buds and establish root growth. Precooled bulbs are available from many garden suppliers, if you did not get yours cooled in time. Then provide two to four weeks of warm temperature (60 F), bright light and moderately moist soil to bring on flowers.
- When shopping for a Christmas tree, check for green, flexible, firmly held needles and a sticky trunk base – both indicators of freshness. Make a fresh cut, and keep the cut end under water at all times.
- Evergreens, except pines and spruce, can be trimmed now for a fresh supply of holiday greenery.

Flowers, Vegetables and Small**December**

- To protect newly planted or tender perennials and bulbs, mulch with straw, chopped leaves or other organic material after plants become dormant.
- Store leftover garden chemicals where they will stay dry, unfrozen and out of the reach of children, pets and unsuspecting adults.
- Once the plants are completely dormant and temperatures are consistently below freezing, apply winter mulch to protect strawberries and other tender perennials. In most cases, 2 to 4 inches of organic material such as straw, pine needles, hay or bark chips will provide adequate protection.
- Check produce and tender bulbs in storage, and discard any that show signs of decay, such as mold or softening. Shriveling indicates insufficient relative humidity.
- Clean up dead plant materials, synthetic mulch and other debris in the vegetable garden, as well as in the flowerbeds, rose beds and orchards.
- Make notes for next year's garden.

Using Old Garden Seed

By: Ward Upham, Horticulture Specialist, Kansas State University

Garden catalogs seem to come earlier each year. Since new seed can be expensive, you may want to consider using seed bought in previous years. We normally consider seed will remain viable for about 3 years under cool, dark, dry, conditions though there are exceptions. For example, members of the carrot family (carrots, parsnips and parsley) are short-lived and are usually good for only 1 to 2 years. Colorado State University has a publication giving more detailed information on the longevity of specific species at <https://extension.colostate.edu/topic-areas/yard-garden/storing-vegetable-and-flower-seeds-7-221/>.

If you are unsure of viability and have plenty of seed, there is an easy method of determining how good your seed is. Place 10 seeds on a paper towel moistened with warm water and cover with a second moistened towel. Roll up the towels and place inside a plastic bag with enough holes for air exchange but not so many that the towels dry quickly. Place the bag in a warm place such as the top of a refrigerator. Remoisten towels with warm water as needed. After the first week, check for germination. Remove sprouted seed and check again after another week. Add these numbers together to determine the percent germination.



Mouse Damage to Fruit Trees/Plants

By: Ward Upham, Horticulture Specialist, Kansas State University

Be on the lookout for mouse tunnels around your fruit plants. Trunks and roots of apple trees are among the favorite meals for mice. There is probably no damage yet. But if we receive enough snow to cover winter food supplies, mice will begin to feed on the lower area of tree trunks and roots. This feeding may be severe enough to girdle tree trunks and kill the trees. Mice like to hide in dead grass and weeds around the trees, especially close to the trunks. They will often tunnel near the soil surface and feed on the tree bark. You can check for mice by placing baited mouse traps in PVC or other pipe near your trees. Insert the traps far enough so that pets are unable to reach the trap. Check the stations about once a week and reset traps if necessary. Mouse damage can be severe enough to kill trees that are old enough to bear fruit. Clear dead grass and weeds away from your trees and monitor for mice if you are using mulch around your fruit plants.

Monitor Indoor Plant Temperatures

By: Ward Upham, Horticulture Specialist, Kansas State University

Now would be a good time to check the location of foliage houseplants to be sure the plants don't get too cold this fall or winter. Plants next to windows or in entryways near outside doors are at the greatest risk. Plants sensitive to cold temperatures include Chinese evergreen (Algaonema), flamingo flower (Anthurium), croton (Codiaeum), false aralia (Dizygotheca), and ming and balfour aralia (Polyscias). Monitor and maintain temperatures above 65 degrees F for the false aralia and above 60 degrees for the rest of the list. Many other indoor plants prefer temperatures above 50 degrees. If needed, move plants away from the windows or door entrances to reduce cold temperature exposure. It may be necessary to move some plants from windowsills before shades or drapes are pulled, especially in the evening.



Controlling Volunteer Trees

By: Ward Upham, Horticulture Specialist, Kansas State University

Though trees are a vital part of our landscapes, there are situations where volunteer trees need to be controlled. This is often a case of the wrong plant in the wrong place. If the tree is still small and a desirable species, you may want to consider transplanting in the spring. If it is not, active control measures would be in order.

Most, but not all, trees resprout after cutting. Cutting those that don't resprout is an effective control method. For example, eastern redcedar is a very common species that will not resprout after cutting. Those that do resprout include Siberian elm, hackberry, Osage orange (hedgeball), oak, ash, aspen, cottonwood, maple, sycamore, willow and many more. These trees will either need to be dug out or the cut stump treated with herbicide after cutting.



Note that when we say volunteer trees, we mean those that come from seed rather than suckers that originate from the roots of an existing tree. The recommendations given in the remainder of this article are designed to kill these volunteer trees. Using herbicides on suckers will damage and very possibly kill the original tree. Trees that commonly produce suckers include tree of heaven, honeylocust, black locust, hackberry, western soapberry, cottonwood, aspen, poplar, willow and boxelder.

It is also possible for larger trees of the same species to be root-grafted. Even though root-grafted trees are not suckers, they do share materials between the individual root systems and therefore herbicides used to treat one tree can be passed to its neighbor. Let's say we have a tree we want to control that is a volunteer and there are no other trees of the same species close enough to be root-grafted that we do not wish to harm. What do we do? If the tree is any size, you probably do not want to dig it out. That leaves using a herbicide on the cut stump. Basal treatments are also possible but that is beyond the scope of this article. First decide what herbicide to use.

Triclopyr and glyphosate are the herbicides most commonly available to homeowners. Triclopyr is found in many brush killers and glyphosate is found in Roundup as well as numerous other products. Read the label before purchasing to make sure that a cut stump treatment is listed. Most often the undiluted product or lightly diluted product is applied to the stump immediately after cutting. A paint brush is often used for the application though some people will dip their pruning shears in the products immediately before cutting. Regardless, it is important that the stump is treated immediately or at least within 5 minutes. Note that a paint brush with foam rather than bristles is less likely to drip.

Trees do not need to be actively growing to be controlled. Actually this time of year is a very good time to treat as long as applications are made when the temperature is above freezing.

Timely Reminders...

By: Ward Upham, Horticulture Specialist, Kansas State University

1. Cover strawberry plants with mulch so they don't heave out of the ground this winter.



Extension - Lawrence County

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LAWRENCE COUNTY



Extension Annual Report
September 2020-August 2021

Meet the Staff:

Ophelia Davis

Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator

Lesley Lodmell

4-H Youth Development Educator, CED

Annie Eakin

Community Wellness Coordinator

Dashia Meadows

Office Manager

Sarah Richer

Health & Human Science Educator

Tammy Dodds

Program Assistant

J.J. Goldsberry

Nutrition Education Program Advisor

McKayla Kattau

Program Assistant



*Numbers illustrated here are combined from educational efforts for all program areas from Sept. 2020-Aug. 2021.





Nutrition Education/ Community Wellness

Healthy Families

The Villages, Healthy Families program and the Purdue Extension Nutrition Education Program partnered to offer families in Lawrence County virtual nutrition education classes in January, February, and March. Class participants learned about planning nutritious meals, being active, handling food safely, and spending food dollars wisely. During the virtual lessons the NEPA, J.J. Goldsberry provided cooking demonstrations on food preparation skills. Participants who completed four lessons were gifted a Crockpot or an electric skillet thanks to funding from United Way of South Central Indiana.

Cambridge Square GLICK Grant

Thanks to partnerships with Purdue Extension's Community Wellness Coordinator (CWC) and Nutrition Education Program Advisor (NEPA), Cambridge Square of Bedford received funding from GLICK Philanthropies to help provide fresh produce and nutrition education to its senior residents. Three separate grants' funding was used over the course of the year, totaling \$27,000 for grant cycles that began in 2020 and will end in 2022.

At the completion of 2020, the CWC assisted in purchasing produce and dairy for food boxes distributed to residents, as well as stock the on site food pantry for the winter months. With the help of Purdue Extension's CWC, Cambridge Square was awarded an additional \$10,000 in COVID-19 relief funding from GLICK. With this funding, approximately 100 produce boxes were distributed to residents in April and May of 2021.

Purdue Extension Nutrition Education Program was awarded

another \$9,500 from Glick Philanthropies to assist residents at

Cambridge Square to continue receiving produce boxes and to enhance the current gardens for the 2022 growing season.

Community Baby Shower

On Saturday, August 28, Ascension St. Vincent Dunn Hospital hosted the annual Lawrence County Community Baby Shower as a drive-thru format. Vendors and community partners included Ascension St. Vincent Dunn, Lawrence County Breastfeeding Coalition, WIC office, Hoosier Uplands Headstart, CareSource and Purdue Extension. An estimated 65 cars came through the Baby Shower drive-through collecting educational materials and gifts like baby clothing, car seats, pack and plays, building blocks and much more.

At the end of the line, CareSource provided meals for each registered participant. In collaboration with Purdue Extension's Nutrition Education Program, the meal packages included groceries, a recipe with a link to view a video demonstration for Lentil Veggie Tacos. The meal distributions were well received, as it was the first time this type of hospitality was offered. Sending people home with a complete meal that can feed a number of people, rather than a single boxed lunch had the potential to be more valuable to participants.

76 CATCH lessons were held in Lawrence County with **1,648 contacts made** this academic year.

114 Eat Smart, Move More (ESMM) lessons were taught this academic year. **281 contacts were made.**



Health & Human Sciences

CATCH My Breath

According to the 2018 Indiana Youth Tobacco Survey, e-cigarette use has increased by more than 350 percent among high school students and middle school students since 2012, and between 2016 and 2018, nearly 35,000 more Indiana students used e-cigarettes. With such a steep rise in youth e-cigarette use, parents, teachers, and students continue to need education on e-cigarettes.

In Spring of 2021, the Health and Human Sciences Extension Educator, Sarah Richer, offered the CATCH My Breath program for the second consecutive year at Mitchell Jr. High with the 6th grade class. The students were very responsive to this educational e-cigarette prevention program. **24 sessions and 18 hours of education were offered** in the months of March and April. According to Sarah Richer, "one highlight of the CATCH My Breath program is seeing the youth practice refusal skills and exist strategies." "These are skills the students will be able to utilize if they are every in a peer pressure situation." The Health and Human Sciences Extension Educator hopes this program will continue to be provided each year, as the content continues to remain pertinent in the lives of Lawrence County youth.



Dining with Diabetes

The Dining with Diabetes program is a positive and proactive approach in reducing the effects of diabetes. A team of 8 Health and Human Sciences Extension Educators, including Purdue Extension – Lawrence County Extension Educator Sarah Richer, offered a Dining with Diabetes program virtually for four weeks. A virtual food demonstration was

included in each lesson. The participants learned about ways to improve their health and well-being, gained knowledge about eating more healthy foods, reported an intention to eat more healthy foods, and reported an intention to increase physical activity/reduce sedentary time in their daily lives.

The program included 16 participants with a total outreach of 64 direct contacts. Participants received 360 minutes of direct diabetes education.

The Dining with Diabetes curriculum reflects current advances in diabetes nutritional education and also takes into consideration today's busy lifestyle. Recipes utilized throughout the curriculum have fewer and less-expensive ingredients and are prepared with less fat and sodium. Utilization of artificial sweeteners in combination with limited amounts of sugar is emphasized to reduce overall carbohydrates and calories.

Empower Me to Be Clutter Free



Three free virtual sessions were offered by the HHS Educator, for participants to learn steps to eliminate clutter at home and work. Session topics included; determining a starting point to de-cluttering, overcoming emotional barriers, finding a system to maintain a clutter free environment, and organizing important documents.

The sessions were offered live on a zoom meeting with 24 participants. The Sessions were also recorded and shared on YouTube. Since being shared, 126 viewers have tuned in to learn more about becoming clutter free.

"It gives me hope and encouragement with a plan to start to de-clutter. I'm sorry others are needing this help, but glad I am not alone. Feeling overwhelmed is very stressful and doesn't help with depression. Thank you for doing this!!!!"



4-H Youth Development



Area 2 4-H Camp

Area 2 counties returned to hosting the annual, overnight 4-H Camp in June 2021. **Lawrence County had ten campers and four counselors join the total delegation of 177.**

Camp can be an integral part of a young person's development. According to the American Camp Association (ACA), "For years, campers' guardians have reported when their children return home they exhibit a caring attitude, understand the importance of giving, are more equipped to stand up for what they know is right, and are willing to be more responsible." These youth practice Social Skills Development, Self-Respect and Character Building, Community Living/Service Skills.

Camp classes for youth included Archery, Balloon Animals, Basketball, Canoeing, Fishing, Llamas, Lei Making, Low Ropes Challenges, Tie Dye, Photography, Coding, Volcanoes and Science, Water Gun Painting, Yoga, and more. The entire camp also learned about the carbon cycle and easy ways they can reduce their carbon foot print through the 4-H Ag Innovators program.

Lawrence County Camper, Isabelle Barker (6th Grade), shared with her mom that she had an amazing time, liked making friends, and she is already planning to come back next year and then be a counselor when she is in 9th Grade.

Bringing State Opportunities Closer to Lawrence Co.

While COVID-19 precautions have changed programming a lot, it also had some interesting side effects. We have been able to offer state-wide programming for youth and volunteers without having to leave the comfort of Lawrence County. For example, we were able to serve as a host site for the Indiana 4-H Leadership Summit, usually held in northern Indiana. Volunteers were given the option to attend in-person, participate in quality, state-wide programming, and connect with those outside of Lawrence County.

Area 2 4-H Educators offered monthly volunteer trainings, via Zoom, open to volunteers across the state, receiving on average 100 registrations.

When we offer in-person programs, the participation is smaller, so with larger groups, our adults and youth learn more from other participants to create a higher quality program.

While some events have been offered in virtual or hybrid formats, we have still been offering quality, in-person events like the Area 2 4-H Junior Leader Retreat. Thirty teens from surrounding counties came together to learn about conflict management and diversity, how to run an effective club meeting, and how to create a welcoming environment. They pushed themselves to new experiences like zip lining and rock climbing. While COVID-19 has led to many challenges, it is also helping push and expand the 4-H program to try great, new things.

In 2020-2021, the Lawrence County 4-H program had

376+ youth participated in the 2021 Lawrence County 4-H Fair totaling 2,000+ exhibits, & 19 4-H clubs

124+ Adult volunteers help to make the 4-H program thrive in Lawrence County.

1 4-H member selected as an Indiana 4-H Ambassador (9 total in state) **1** 4-H member appointed to State Jr. Leader Council



Agriculture & Natural Resources

VET 104

According to the USDA Ag Census, Lawrence County is the top county for beef cows in the state, while on the flip side of animal husbandry, the number of large animal veterinarians making farm calls is decreasing annually.

Vet 104 was the fourth program offered in November 2020 in partnership with Spring Mill Veterinary Services-Dr. Jerry Rusch, DVM. The program series started in 2017 with hands-on demos utilizing live animals to teach skills and practices to producers to help them Perform on their home farms in the absence of a vet. Topics included: calving complications and ways to manage, post calving care of the cow/calf, equipment/supplies to have on hand, reading medication labels and more. Participant completed evaluations found that all acquired new and helpful information regarding calving complications and insight related to after care for cows/heifers and calves, was useful to their operation needs.

Why Soil Health and Fertility Matters

A virtual program was hosted in November 2020 with university specialists who bridged common gaps between soil health/fertility. Program topics covered: defining soil health, how cover crops help soil health, cover crop recipes, soil fertility program for forages, forage cover crop options, and much more. The following impact was collected from surveys: 100% better understood what soil health meant, were more aware of soil health tests, uses and limitations, better understood how cover crops improve soil

health as well as becoming more aware of resources available to guide them in adopting simple cover crop systems in their region.

Participation numbers for this program were great! There were over **150 registered participants from all over the state of Indiana, as well as Delaware, Ohio, Utah and even some from Canada.**

Poultry Basics 101

Hosted in February 2021, this program included basic poultry education over topics related to: brooding, nutrition and management. The original goal set for this program was to hopefully reach 15 people; however, **59 individuals participated in the webinar.** Participants included many high school students enrolled in Animal Science classes.



Upon completion of the program, a Qualtrics survey was distributed to participants and the following information was collected from those who completed the evaluation:

100% shared that they planned to utilize information from the program to assist them in their poultry growing efforts.

100% gained insight on how to identify problems within their own poultry growing experiences.

100% wanted further education on more specific poultry related topics.

“The information shared today was fairly broad but it was great and just what I was hoping for! I wanted help on brooding and nutrition and my questions were answered during the presentation. Thanks so much for offering this program, it was spot on in providing what I needed help with for my flock of birds.”

ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)



NEWS RELEASE

KIC – Keep Invasives In Check

New Uprooter Tool Available for Loan



An Uprooter was awarded to the partners for their successful efforts with the Weed Wrangle and to encourage Lawrence County KIC to continue to work toward eradicating invasive plants in the county. The Uprooter is a large wrench that pulls invasives bushes and trees out by the roots.

The Uprooter is made in America and once assembled, makes pulling bushes out by the roots fairly easy. It will be available for loan with the invasive tool kit for anyone in Lawrence County to check out, free of charge, and use. Call the Lawrence County Soil and Water District at (812) 279-8117 Ext 3 for questions or to check out the Uprooter tool.

The office also has information on what invasives you might want to watch for to use the tool on. Privet, bush honeysuckle, and autumn olive are all easily identified this time of year and perfect for removal with the Uprooter tool.

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Photo Caption: *Hannah Martin, Education Specialist with the Lawrence County Soil and Water Conservation District office is shown here with a privet tree after having uprooted it with the new Uprooter tool next to her.*



ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)

Grazing Bites

I've enjoyed several good autumn days and quirked, "it can just stay this way and then turn nice," but, winter is coming. I do enjoy the different seasons with each providing some traditional features, but my least favorite season is probably winter. Don't get me wrong, there are some beautiful winter days – pristine, clean looking landscapes monotonously all covered white, hiding the scars of prior days and sometimes poor decisions.

My wife and her sister quite often refer to and compare winters to the "winter of '78." To them, it's not only noteworthy weather wise, but also a bit of an age factor indicator. I've certainly not forgotten that winter. Literally mountains of snow that had to be dug through, not plowed, and multiple tractors gelling up, creating the need to feed silage completely by hand. No other winter since has dared to compare – that's a good thing.

Lots of things have changed since then – winter weather is one of them. I'll leave it up to you to decide if it is a trend or a direction. Either way, winter is still challenging. Winters in the past almost always blessed us with extended frozen soil conditions - that is usually not the case now. The past couple of winters it seems I could count the length of frozen soil in days, not weeks. There is a lot of benefit to having some of that free concrete. You could graze or move hay around and even place hay on fields where you might want to feed it, with no or little worries about rutting or excessive compaction.

When winters are mild and especially when they are also wet, soil conditions just are not as compatible for a lot of winter use. If you want to graze under these types of winter conditions, then you're going to have to be very careful how you do it.

One of the first things that you're going have to pay attention to is the amount of forage that is available in that pasture. If you don't have enough cover, residual or a decent heavy stand of forage, then your potential to cause damage grazing on the site increases.

Ideally, you really need a total of about 3,000 pounds of dry matter per acre to be able to graze under wet soil conditions without causing some potentially long-lasting damage to the forage stand and the soil. That sounds like a lot, but it's only about ten inches of dense forage, sometimes slightly less. A good healthy grass/legume stand can easily produce 250 to 300 pounds of dry matter per acre inch.

When forages have been allowed to regrow and are stockpiled for later use, not only has the above ground biomass increased, but also the below ground system. It is not a failproof system, but certainly does provide some resiliency over pastures or systems that have been continuously grazed closer than ideal and thus lacking the additional underground supportive structure.

That said, there are also benefits to having that much growth on the surface. First, it is winter feed that can be utilized and allocated in such a manner to be very efficient without the need to get a tractor out or worry about relocating manure the next season – it's automated. Second, what isn't consumed is usually laid down upon the soil surface to become litter or residue to protect the soil surface, provide some nutrients for the next seasons growth, improve infiltration of winter precipitation and buffer some of the hoof action under wet conditions.

If you don't have this cover and the associated root mass created from the good cover, then the pasture will not fair nearly as well if grazed under wet conditions – expect excessive pugging, soil disturbance, forage stand reduction and potentially long-lasting compaction. None of that is good, and depending on site conditions, the winter weather and a few other factors, it's a toss up of which one will be worse.

Quite often the one that is noticed the most is increased weed presence and pressure the following season. That is primarily due to soil disturbance, then loss of forage stand integrity, and lastly cover. You might have thought you faired well over winter until spring comes when suddenly, where did all these weeds come from?! Early successional annual weed species are expected, especially foxtails and crabgrass, but more aggravating species such as spiny pigweed and cockleburs like to bounce back from old seed banks to try and reestablish themselves with some vengeance. These seedbanks are only held



ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)

Feeding hay on pasture can absolutely reduce time in winter feeding areas and can also boost organic matter and nutrients to sites that need it. Rolling out those bales to feed them helps to more evenly distribute hay and livestock waste across a larger area. It also reduces the impact and time spent on any specific area. A large round bale fed within a ring or on a wet site can quickly turn the area around the bale to a soupy mess. Soil structure is heavily damaged. This is a good reason to try and feed either on frozen or dry soils or on a feed pad.

Feed pads can be built of rock or concrete. They should always be placed a good distance from any water body, yet convenient for access and ideally where wind protection is available for the livestock. Rows of large hay bales, a solid fence, a building, trees or topography can all provide a decent windbreak.

Occasionally, a pasture is damaged from hoof action on wet soils no matter how much we try to prevent it. An unexpected rain during the grazing allocation or, more likely, more rain than expected for any given time frame can quickly compromise the integrity of the stand. It has certainly happened to me – especially when setting up areas to be grazed for a few days while I'm away. The plan can fail. The light drizzle that was predicted can turn into two or more inches of hard rain and the perfect allocation quickly was not enough.

If this has happened, make sure you assess pastures, paddocks, or areas of either, as they might be good candidates for some winter dormant overseeding. Assess the damage. How much bare ground do you see? If you have 80 percent or more live plant cover, then I wouldn't get concerned because most of the spaces will be filled in by spring. If the live plants cover 60 percent or more of the stand, then the addition of some more legumes such as clover will quickly fill in the void areas. If there is over 40 percent bare ground, then additional seed is normally needed.

Broadcasting some seed during the dormant period on these thin areas will increase the chances of better stands and perhaps some more control of spontaneous weeds the next spring. Clovers are pretty easy – just make sure they are inoculated appropriately with the correct rhizobium for the species. Smooth, small-seeded grasses usually do best for overseeding. I don't recommend doing an entire replanting at this time, but I'd rather risk a little seed to fill in some gaps than wrestle with feisty weeds. Timothy, perennial ryegrass, Italian ryegrass, redtop and bluegrass are probably good choices for such purpose.

Things change over time. The format of Grazing Bites has also changed. It will be mailed from two different email addresses. For most, it will come from grazingbites@gmail.com which you may respond to.

May your roots grow deep, and your soils be rich – Merry Christmas!

Remember, it's not about maximizing a grazing event, but maximizing a grazing season! May the grass grow deep roots under your feet and your soil be rich. Keep on grazing!

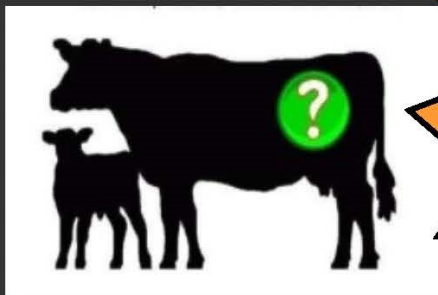
ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)

Vet 105

Are you a beef cattle producer with questions about MINERAL SUPPLEMENTATION? GREAT...we have answers!

Attend to learn about:

- Evaluation and development of a mineral program
- Trace mineral impacts on herd efficiency
- Common mineral deficiency symptoms
- Types of mineral and methods of supplementation
- Mineral related equipment and supplies to have on hand
- Plus more!!!



Bring a mineral tag from your farm to the program!

Date:
WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 15, 2021

Time:
6:30-8:30 pm

NEW Location:
Spring Mill State Park
Inn - Lake Room
3333 IN-60 E,
Mitchell, IN 47446
(Free Park Entrance with
program RSVP)

RSVP Deadline:
Monday,
December 13, 2021

RSVP To:
Purdue Extension -
Lawrence County
Phone: 812-275-4623

Program Partners:
Purdue Extension
Lawrence & Lawrence
Counties, Spring Mill
Veterinary Service, and
MultiMin

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. This material may be available in alternative formats.

ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)



**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:



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ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)**PURDUE EXTENSION*****STATEWIDE VIRTUAL
BASIC TRAINING*****Purdue Extension Master Gardener Program****Live Webinars**

Tuesdays, February 1 – May 3, 2022, from 6:30 – 8:30 PM ET / 5:30 – 7:30 PM CT (Via WebEx Events)

January 25	Test Connect Session (optional)
February 1	Purdue EMG Orientation
February 8	Plant Science
February 15	Soils and Plant Nutrition
February 22	Animal Pests
March 1	Plant Disease Diagnosis
March 8	Weed ID and Control
March 15	Insect ID and Control
March 22	Invasive Species
March 29	Pesticide Safety & Alternatives
April 5	Herbaceous Ornamentals
April 12	Woody Ornamentals
April 19	Fruit Gardening
April 26	Lawn Care
May 3	Vegetable Gardening
After May 3	Final Exam, post-test, & post-program survey

County Connections

Weekly local connection hour with your county's Extension Master Gardener Coordinator. The day, time, and place for the local connection hour will be determined by your EMG County Coordinator and could be in person, a virtual web meeting, or a combination of both.



PURDUE EXTENSION
MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution.

Step 1: Application (Deadline January 11, 2022)

Apply for training by visiting Purdue Extension - Lawrence County at 924 16th Street, Bedford to pick up an application, or call (812)275-4623 for more information and to request an application by email.

Step 2: Registration and Fees

(Once the local EMG Coordinator approves your application, you will register and pay for the program.)

- \$180.00 for an individual registration with print version of Purdue EMG Manual
- \$280.00 for two people sharing a print version of the Purdue EMG Manual, both will need application approval prior to registering and paying.
- Participants will be able to purchase a digital version of the manual for an additional \$25.00.

To learn more about the Purdue Extension Master Gardener Program, visit: www.hort.purdue.edu/mg.



ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)

**2022 PURDUE BEEF BASICS
VIRTUAL PROGRAM**

**TUESDAY EVENINGS
FEBRUARY 8 - MARCH 29, 2022
6:00 TO 8:00 PM ON ZOOM**

BEGINNING BEEF PRODUCERS (LESS THAN FIVE YEAR'S EXPERIENCE) AND THOSE INTERESTED IN STARTING A BEEF CATTLE OPERATION, ARE INVITED TO JOIN PURDUE EXTENSION ON TUESDAY EVENINGS IN EARLY 2022. YOU CAN EXPECT TO GAIN FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES, KNOWLEDGE, AND SKILLS RELATED TO BEEF CATTLE PRODUCTION.

TOPICS TO BE HIGHLIGHTED INCLUDE:

- 1. OVERVIEW OF BEEF CATTLE INDUSTRY**
- 2. HEALTH**
- 3. BEHAVIOR AND FACILITIES**
- 4. FORAGES**
- 5. NUTRITION**
- 6. GENETIC SELECTION**
- 7. REPRODUCTION**

REGISTRATION OPENS IN DECEMBER

ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**10TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN
REGION SOIL HEALTH
WORKSHOP**

**FEBRUARY 8, 2022 8:00AM
1/2 DAY EVENT**

**LOCATION: CORNERSTONE HALL
1700 N. JIM DAY RD.
SALEM, IN 47167**

**TOPICS: COVER CROP TERMINATION OPTIONS, INCLUDING
ROLLER-CRIMPER PRACTICES; SOIL CARBON
SEQUESTRATION AND WHAT IT MEANS
FOR THE PRODUCER**

"The USDA and its partners are equal opportunity employers, lenders, and providers"

ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)



Park Outdoor Series



RSVP:
Bedford Parks Dept
Phone: 812-275-5692



January 25, 2022 @ 6pm
Collecting and Making Maple Syrup
Todd & Tracy Schmitz
Bath House @ Otis Park 607 Tunnelton Rd.

February 22, 2022 @ 6pm
Back Yard Birds
Allison Gillett
Bath House @ Otis Park 607 Tunnelton Rd.

March 29, 2022 @ 6pm
Backpacking 101 and Local Trails
Teena Ligman & Summer Duffee
Bath House @ Otis Park 607 Tunnelton Rd.

April 26, 2022 @ 6pm
Hoop House 101
Whitney Baldwin, Hannah Martin & Kathy Bodkin
Community Garden 416 H Street

May 24, 2022 @ 6pm
Pollination & Bee Keeping
Bedford Bee Keepers
Community Garden 416 H Street

June 28, 2022 @ 6pm
Limestone Month
Nelson Shaffer
Bath House @ Otis Park 607 Tunnelton Rd



ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



Lawrence County Soil & Water
Conservation District

Collecting and Making Maple Syrup



Date: January 25, 2022
Time: 6 PM

Location: Otis Park Bath
House, 607 Tunnelton Rd

Please RSVP by:
Tuesday, January 18

Ever thought about making maple syrup? How hard could it be, right?

Join us on Tuesday, January 25, at 6 pm and find out! Todd and

Traci Schmitz, who make syrup on their own property will present a program at the Otis Park Bath House. They will bring equipment that is available to hobbyist and discuss making syrup from tapping, to collecting to finishing.

Questions will be welcome.



RSVP

Bedford Parks Department
JPhone: 812-275-5692
Email: jwebb@bedford.in.us
gdorsett@bedford.in.us



ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)

Dec. 18th

Golden Girls Sale

2 p.m.



Purdue Miss G503 ASA # 3752011

Selling a Relentless IVF Heifer Pregnancy



**H/C-W/C Fast
Lane ASA #
3667480**

**Ruby NFF Up
The Ante
ASA#
3594737**

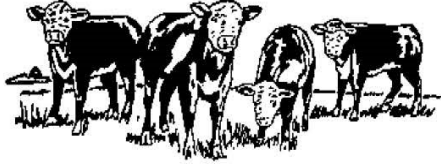
Selling Females bred to Our New Herd Sires! As well as other Industry leading sires! Such as THSF Loverboy, SC Pay the Price, Jass On the Mark , WLE Black Mamba , and Mr CCF Vision

We invite you to join us December 18th at 2 pm in West Lafayette Indiana for Purdue University's Production Sale! We will be offering at 50 of some of our best females at public auction! All cows will be between the ages of 2-8 with due dates running from Feb 26th–May 1st. Also selling a select group of fall calving cows that have calves at side that are ready to go to work for you will also be offered.

7400 ASREC Lane, West Lafayette Indiana 47906

For more information contact

Brian Defreese (765)-491-7421 Matt Claeys (765)-427-9078 or Charlie Huelsenbeck (260)-450-7104



Lawrence County Cattlemen's Association

March 4, 2021

The Lawrence County Cattlemen's Board of Directors has decided to not host an annual meeting celebrating the 2020 calendar year. Like many organizations and associations, putting the safety and well-being of members is the driving factor behind this decision. However, the LCCA Board of Directors look forward to when everyone can be together again and fellowship in a way where fun and laughter prevail.

Normally when notification of the LCCA Annual Meeting is sent out, membership information is included. However, since there is not going to be a meeting this year, the Board of Directors did not want members to miss the opportunity to renew their membership again, or even recruit new members to the association. As a reminder the annual dues are \$10.00. There are many benefits to joining the organization that you may not be aware of, but include: learning about LCCA supported programs and events, discovering the resources available to help you with your farm, supporting the scholarship fund for our county youth and many more!

If you would like to pay your 2021 membership, please fill out the form below, detach and send it, along with a check made out to the *Lawrence County Cattlemen's*, Purdue Extension-Lawrence County, 924 16th Street, Bedford, IN 47421.

Sincerely,

Buddy Scherschel
LCCA President

=====

I WOULD LIKE ____ MEMBERSHIP(S) AT \$10/ea IN THE LAWRENCE COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOC. IN THE NAME(S) LISTED BELOW = \$ _____

Please check the box if you have interest in serving on the LCCA Board of Directors

Membership(s):

Name #1 _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Cell Phone: _____ If you would like to receive notices by text, please note your service provider (i.e., Verizon, AT&T, etc.) Provider: _____

Name #2 _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Cell Phone: _____ If you would like to receive notices by text, please note your service provider (i.e., Verizon, At&t, etc.) Provider: _____

Make checks payable to: **Lawrence County Cattlemen's** TOTAL: \$ _____

ANR News in-brief items for your consideration... (cont.)

Have you lost livestock to vulture predation?



We are Purdue University researchers looking for ways to understand and control vulture predation

•

We are looking for livestock that have been killed by vultures in Indiana and Kentucky

What to do if you lose an animal:

- Take lots of pictures from every angle
- If scavengers are around, move the carcass somewhere they cannot access it
- Call or text Marian Wahl at (317) 647-5294 as soon as you can

For more information, visit our website at
tinyurl.com/PurdueVultures

ASSURED ADMISSION

PURDUE FAST START

PROGRAM



At Purdue University, we are empowering students to direct their own futures through the free

PURDUE FAST START PROGRAM,

which makes higher education more affordable for all.

WHAT

Many promising students will now have the opportunity to take their first steps toward a Purdue degree with the new Purdue Fast Start program. Through Purdue's partnership with ModernStates.org, a website featuring more than 30 free, high-quality courses, you can gain assured admission into Purdue by earning free college credit. This partnership will create new opportunities for Indiana students to take giant leaps in their education with a new pathway to Purdue University.

THROUGH THE PURDUE FAST START PROGRAM, STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE THEIR OWN GIANT LEAPS A REALITY BY EARNING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION AT PURDUE.

HOW

To earn acceptance into Purdue, Indiana students can take the Modern States online courses for free. Those who pass a minimum of five corresponding College Board CLEP exams are assured admission to Purdue and will be designated as Klinsky Scholars. Students also will have access to mentors during the program.

Make a Purdue University education even more affordable:

- Free online courses and corresponding CLEP exams through Modern States, covering the entire cost of the Fast Start program
- Complete 5 courses + pass the CLEP exams (paid for by ModernStates.org) = 15 credits, a full semester's worth of credit at Purdue, **WHICH CAN SAVE A STUDENT \$11,000**
- Complete 10 courses + pass the CLEP exams (paid for by ModernStates.org) = 30 credits, freshman year for free at Purdue, **WHICH CAN SAVE A STUDENT OVER \$21,000**

LEARN MORE

For more information, go to the Fast Start website at purdue.university/faststart, or call 765-494-1776 or (for hearing impaired) 800-743-3333.



PURDUE UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION SERVICE

Lawrence County
924 16th Street
Bedford, IN 47121

Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture

Phone: 812-275-4623

Fax: 812-275-4131

Email: odavis@purdue.edu

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT:
[https://extension.purdue.edu/
lawrence/Pages/default.aspx](https://extension.purdue.edu/lawrence/Pages/default.aspx)

OR ON FACEBOOK:

[Purdue Extension—Lawrence
County](#)

PURDUE EXTENSION—TRANSFORMING
LIVES AND LIVELIHOODS THROUGH
RESEARCH-BASED EDUCATION.

A Farmer's Christmas

Christmas is not just for those in the city where stores are abundant and bright lights shine pretty.

Dwellers in big towns would no doubt be shocked to find out that farmers keep Santa Claus stocked.

Now don't get me wrong, the elf makes the toys and delivers them worldwide to good girls and boys, But animals get hungry working hour by hour and reindeer don't run on nuclear power.

St. Nick, he would tire without milk and a snack, but the reindeer must haul that fat elf and his pack,

So Santa must feed them to finish his task – the farmer will tell all who take time to ask.

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all 'cross the farm the cattle were mooing as if in alarm.

I sprang from my bed and put on my wrap, but neglected to button my long-handles' flap.

That wakes you up fast on a cold winter's night, so I went back inside and fastened it right.

I picked up my flashlight and rifle, what's more, and fully awake again stepped out the door.

Visions of wrong-doers ran through my mind; rustlers or poachers I expected to find. The cattle were herding 'ore the hill that cold night, so I followed their lead toward a very strange light.

When you follow a cow, as all farmers know, you don't look ahead but directly below. Old habits like that are not easy to break, but I gazed straight ahead since much more was at stake.

To the top of the hill the cattle I followed, to the source of the light by the hay in the hollow.

A whiskered fat man was re-harnessing his team — they had stolen my hay, or so it would seem.

I angered not much for the cost of the hay, but who wants to toss bales on Christmas day?

"Hold it right there," I yelled at the elf. "You really should be quite ashamed of yourself. "I planted and harvested a good fescue crop, and you pause here as if it's a roadside rest stop."

Looking my way, he laughed with a roar. He regained his composure, then ho-hoed some more.

My rifle and threats had caused him no fear, and why do I feel such a draft from the rear?

Looking behind me expecting a trap, I saw nothing more than my unbuttoned flap. Ho, ho, ho, he laughed with delight. I guess he was laughing at the ridiculous sight Of this farmer in long johns with flashlight and rifle, ranting and raving while exposed just a trifle.

Embarrassed and angered, I was prepared to do battle — I pushed my way through that big herd of cattle.

His laughter continued as we met eye-to-eye, and I was finding it hard to be mad at the guy.

We ha-ha'd and ho-ho'd for an hour together at my careless exposure, to be sure for the weather,

But even the best of good times must soon halt, so I bade him good-bye and said "Leave without fault."

For the use of my pasture and consumption of hay, he kindly and generously offered to pay,

But I wouldn't hear of it — it gave me a lift to think that just once he was given a gift. He picked up the reins and got on his way. The reindeer took off with that magical sleigh.

I made my way back to my home and my bed, and laughed to myself at the last words he said

As he steered north by the stars without aid of a map, "Merry Christmas to you — and button your flap."

I know that my story has taken a while, but the time was well spent if it brought you a smile.

-Denny Banister, Missouri Farm Bureau

Happy Holidays to You and Yours!!