

Agriculture Natural Resources Newsletter JULY, 2023

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

Cooperative Extension Service
Mercer County
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Linda McClanahan, Mercer County Agent
for Agriculture & Natural Resources



MERCER COUNTY FAIR LIVESTOCK SHOWS

- Dairy Show – Saturday, July 22nd 10:00am
- Sheep Show – Wednesday, July 26th 6:30pm
- Swine Show – Saturday, July 29th 9:00am
- Youth Rabbit Show – Saturday, July 29th Noon
- Youth Poultry Show – Saturday, July 29th Noon
- Goat Show – Saturday, July 29th 1:00pm
- *Beef Show – Monday, July 31st 6:00pm

Enter online at:

<https://mercercfairky.fairentry.com/>

*Beef Show entries done in person, on-site

Mercer County Fair & Horse Show
July 24 – July 29, 2023



MERCER COUNTY FAIR & HORSE SHOW



Fair Entry Opens July 1

Pre-registration for all shows will be required.

The Beef Show will be doing on-site entry. Do NOT use online fair entry.

<http://mercercfairky.fairentry.com>



Use link above or scan QR code to go to the fair entry website.

For show bills, go to

<https://tinyurl.com/mercercountyfair23>

Mercer County Extension Office
1007 Lexington Road—Harrodsburg, KY 40330

Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

DEADLINE EXTENDED

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is extending the deadline for the Emergency Relief Program (ERP) Phase Two and Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP) **to July 14, 2023**, to give producers more time to apply for assistance. Additionally, USDA's **Farm Service Agency (FSA) is partnering with nine organizations to provide educational and technical assistance to agricultural producers** who need assistance completing an ERP Phase Two application. The extended deadline will give producers more time to work with these partner organizations and apply for assistance. Contact your local FSA Office at 859-734-4326.



Join us for the **2023 Kentucky Woodland Owners Short Course!**

(<https://wosc.ca.uky.edu/2023-wosc>)

If you have ever wanted to learn more about woodland and wildlife management in Kentucky then this is a great opportunity! Here is a link to a press release on it: <https://news.ca.uky.edu/article/unlock-potential-your-woodlands-kentucky-woodland-owners-short-course>



Kentucky
Woodland
Owners
Short Course

Elk Cave Farm (Boyle/Casey counties)

9:30-3:00 PM (Eastern)

*Must complete the online sessions to attend
\$20 per person / \$30 couple
includes lunch, a binder, and resources

Register Now

wosc.ca.uky.edu

While it's been a relatively cool start to summer across the Bluegrass State, heat and humidity more typical of summer are bound to arrive sooner rather than later. Heat is one of the leading weather-related killers in the U.S., resulting in hundreds of fatalities each year. During extremely hot and humid weather, your body's ability to cool itself is challenged. A body heating too rapidly or losing too much fluid or salt through dehydration or sweating, can result in death or permanent injury. While everyone can be vulnerable to heat, some are more vulnerable than others. Infants, children, the elderly, chronically ill, and pregnant women are especially vulnerable.

During excessive heat, avoid heavy activity and direct sunlight. Stay hydrated, find a cool indoor place, and check on children, the elderly, and pets. Protect yourself outside by wearing light, loose-fitting clothes, stay hydrated, and spend time in the shade. Also, never leave anyone (or pets) alone in a locked car, even in the winter, as death can occur in as little as 10 minutes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides a list of warning signs and symptoms of heat illness and recommended first aid steps.

Heat Cramps

Heat cramps may be the first sign of heat-related illness and may lead to heat exhaustion or stroke. Symptoms include painful muscle cramps and spasms, usually in legs and abdomen, and heavy sweating. First aid for someone experiencing heat cramps includes applying firm pressure on cramping muscles or gently massage to relieve the spasms. Give sips of water unless the person complains of nausea. Seek immediate medical attention if cramps last longer than 1 hour.

Heat Exhaustion

Symptoms include heavy sweating; weakness or tiredness; cool, pale, clammy skin; fast, weak pulse; muscle cramps; dizziness; nausea or vomiting; headache; and fainting. If you suspect someone is suffering from heat exhaustion, move the person to a cooler location, preferably an air-conditioned room. Loosen clothing. Apply cool, wet cloths or have the person sit in a cool bath. Offer sips of water. Seek immediate medical attention if the person vomits, symptoms worsen, or last longer than 1 hour.

Heat Stroke

Symptoms include a throbbing headache; confusion; nausea; dizziness; body temperature above 103°F; hot, red, dry, or damp skin; rapid and strong pulse; fainting; and loss of consciousness. **Call 911 or get the victim to a hospital immediately** as heat stroke is a severe medical emergency. Move the victim to a cooler, preferably air-conditioned, environment. Reduce body temperature with cool cloths or a cool bath. Use a fan if heat index temperatures are below the high 90s. A fan can make you hotter at higher temperatures. Do NOT give fluids.

The infographic is split into two columns: Heat Exhaustion (orange background) and Heat Stroke (red background). In the center is a stylized human figure with a red head and orange body, showing symptoms like dizziness (spinning top), thirst (water bottle), heavy sweating (sweat drops), and nausea (vomiting). Below the figure is the text 'Heat exhaustion can lead to heat stroke.' and 'Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given.'

Heat Exhaustion	Heat Stroke
ACT FAST <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Move to a cooler area• Loosen clothing• Sip cool water• Seek medical help if symptoms don't improve	ACT FAST CALL 911 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Move person to a cooler area• Loosen clothing and remove extra layers• Cool with water or ice
<i>Dizziness</i> <i>Thirst</i> <i>Heavy Sweating</i> <i>Nausea</i> <i>Weakness</i>	<i>Confusion</i> <i>Dizziness</i> <i>Becomes Unconscious</i>

Heat exhaustion can lead to heat stroke.

Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given.

Stay Cool, Stay Hydrated, Stay Informed!

Logos for CDC, NIOSH, and NIH are present at the bottom.

MONEY FOR FARM IMPROVEMENTS

KADF

KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Eligible Investment Areas:

- Agricultural Diversification
- Ag Tech & Leadership Development
- Large Animal
- Small Animal
- Farm Infrastructure
- Fencing & On-Farm Water
- Forage & Grain Improvement
- Innovative Ag. Systems
- On-Farm Energy
- Poultry & Other Fowl
- Value Added & Marketing

Administered by
Mercer County Conservation District

227 Morris Drive
Harrodsburg, KY 40330
(859) 734-4326 Ext. 3

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CAIP)

Applications are available for Mercer County's CAIP to assist farmers in making important farm investments.

Application Period:
July 10th thru July 28th, 2023

No applications will be accepted before July 10th or after July 28th, 2023

Application Availability:
Mercer County Conservation District
Monday – Friday (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

For More Information:
Contact the Mercer County Conservation District at (859) 734-4326 Ext. 3 or email braden.lawson@ky.nacdnet.net

All applications are scored, based on the scoring criteria set by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.

Watermelon Fun Facts

It's classified as both a fruit and a vegetable.

Watermelons live up to their name!

They are
92%
water!

THERE ARE OVER 100,000 ACRES OF WATERMELONS GROWN IN THE U.S., PRODUCING OVER 40 MILLION POUNDS.

There are roughly **1,200** varieties of watermelons!

The heaviest watermelon weighed in at **350 pounds!**



THE FIRST WATERMELON HARVEST ON RECORD TOOK PLACE IN EGYPT NEARLY 5,000 YEARS AGO!

Ingredients:

- 2 cups chopped seedless watermelon
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1 cup chopped cucumber
- ½ cup chopped onion
- ½ chopped red pepper
- ½ teaspoon garlic salt
- 1 teaspoon lime juice
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar

Watermelon Salsa

Servings: Makes 10 servings Serving Size: 1/2 cup



Directions:

1. Combine watermelon, blueberries, cucumber, onion and pepper in large serving bowl.
2. Sprinkle with garlic salt. Toss to coat.
3. Stir in lime juice and balsamic vinegar.
4. Cover and chill one hour.

Source: *Plate it up! Kentucky Proud Project.*

25 calories; 0g fat; 0mg cholesterol; 50mg sodium; 7g carbohydrate; 1g fiber; 5g sugar; 1g protein.

Land rental agreements can come in many shapes, sizes, parameters, and stipulations. Typically, we see three basic land rent types: cash rent, share rent, and the increasingly popular, flex rent. Each rental agreement is likely to be different. This article will just touch on the basics, realizing that each landlord and renter can develop their own individual agreement.

Cash rent is typically the easiest and most straightforward rental type. The landlord has a set number of acres to rent. An agreement is made with the renter to pay a set amount per acre for the use of that land. In the agreement, there may be other stipulations such as fertilizer management, crop rotation, and waterway and crossing management included in the agreement. Cash rent gives the landlord a set revenue per year and the renter a set cost per year. The landlord gives up any upside due to prices and yields. Likewise, the renter bears the full risk in a down year, no matter the revenue generated from the land, the same rent is due. Determining the cash rental rate is a science in and of itself. Rental rates are dependent upon the soil productivity level, size of the tract of land being rented, location, competition among potential renters, and many other factors. It helps the negotiation process if both parties are somewhat familiar with current cash rents in the area. Sometimes the landlord has a particular renter in mind that they want to rent their ground to. This requires the two parties to come to an agreement. Other times, a closed or open bid process is used to rent the ground to the highest bidder.

Crop share rent can be equally as popular as cash rent. One of the attractive qualities of crop share is that it helps to spread the risk and reward between the landlord and the renter. Again, crop share agreements vary among areas, producers, and individual land tracts. Crop share agreements can also vary based on the crop planted. A crop share rent works just like it sounds. An agreement is made between the parties that the landlord will receive a certain percentage of the crop. This percentage can be anything but are typically somewhere between 20% and 50% of the crop. Sometimes the landlord receives a percentage of the crop "clear of expenses", meaning that the landlord pays none of the costs of production. Other times landlord may receive a higher percentage of the crop in exchange for paying a portion of the expenses. Under a crop share agreement, the landlord owns a portion of the crop. This requires an agreement on how and when the landlord will be paid for their crop. The landlord could market their own crop. Sometimes an agreement is made for the producer to haul the crop at the time of harvest and sell the landlord share at the current market price on the day of harvest. Again, these agreements can vary from one rental agreement to another. Under a crop share agreement, the landlord now bears part of the revenue risk associated with crop production and market prices. In many situations, the landlord in a crop share agreement may find it wise to purchase crop insurance for their pair of the crop. Likewise, the landlord may have the opportunity to experience the upside of revenue increases due to crop production and market rallies. The renter in a crop share agreement gets to share the risk of a down year with the landlord. Crop share rental agreements typically require the landlord to be slightly more involved and knowledgeable about crop production levels and crop markets.

In recent years, a hybrid rental agreement seems to have gained popularity. This is referred to as a Flex Lease. The flex lease combines some attributes from the cash rent and crop share agreements. Like all rental agreements, the flex lease can vary widely. Typically, a flex lease sets a minimum cash rent. This cash rent might be lower than a traditional cash rent, this helps to protect the renter in the case of decreased revenues, but locks in a minimum for the landlord. A flex lease also has a component to allow the landlord to gain in the case of increased revenues. This might be through a percentage of the crop when revenue hits or exceeds a predetermined threshold. Flex leases require more communication and knowledge of both the landlord and the renter. Many details must be worked out to determine the parameters that trigger increased rental payments. One of the most difficult parameters is what price to use and where and when to obtain that price to calculate revenue. It is important that both parties have a full understanding of the agreements and how increased payments are triggered and calculated.

As mentioned many times in the article, rental agreements can be different in a variety of ways. One of the most important points around rental agreements is that all parties fully understand what has been agreed upon. While many rental agreements are made verbally and over a handshake, it is highly recommended that any rental agreement be put in writing. A written rental agreement allows both parties or their representatives to refer back to the parameters of the lease. A written rental agreement also helps protect both parties in the case of death or other unexpected tragedy. Written agreements allow outside parties to know what the agreement was and how long it is in effect. Sample rental agreements to get you started can be found through a quick online search. If desired, an attorney can be contacted to review your rental agreement to be sure that your interests are protected.



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Mercer County Extension Office
1007 Lexington Road
Harrodsburg, KY 40330

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



- July 4 Independence Day, Extension Office Closed
- July 7-8 KFB Young Farmer Summer Outing
- July 11-14 4-H Day Camp
- July 21-22 KFB Generation Bridge Meeting
- July 24-29 Mercer County Fair & Horse Show**

- August 5-6 Shaker Village Craft Fair, MCCA Concessions
- August 8 Mercer County Agricultural Field Day (Rain Date: August 10)
- August 12 Mercer County Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting
Devine's Corn Maze

August 17-27 



Saturdays
9:00am - 1:00pm
May – October

Wednesdays
2:00pm - 5:00pm
June – September