## Agriculture Natural Resources Newsletter JULY, 2023



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

**Cooperative Extension Service** 

Mercer County 1007 Lexington Road Harrodsburg, KY 40330 (859) 734-4378 Fax: (859) 734-4379 mercer.ca.uky.edu









Linda McClanahan, Mercer County Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources

#### MERCER COUNTY FAIR LIVESTOCK SHOWS

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

#### **Enter online at:**

https://mercerfairky.fairentry.com/
\*Beef Show entries done in person, on-site

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



LEXINGTON, KY 40546

#### 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://mercerfairky.fairentry.com



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

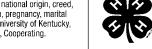
For show bills, go to

https://tinyurl.com/ mercercountyfair23

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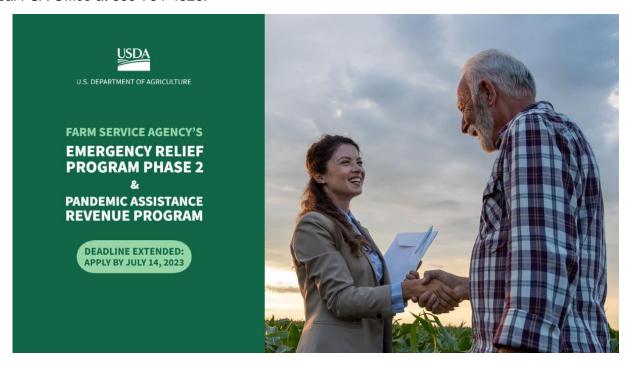
Agriculture and Natural Resources Family and Consumer Sciences 4-H Youth Development Community and Economic Development Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, cred, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.





#### **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: <a href="https://news.ca.uky.edu/article/unlock-potential-your-woodlands-kentucky-woodland-owners-short-course">https://news.ca.uky.edu/article/unlock-potential-your-woodlands-kentucky-woodland-owners-short-course</a>



#### HEAT SAFETY Tony Edwards, National Weather Service-Charleston, WV

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**

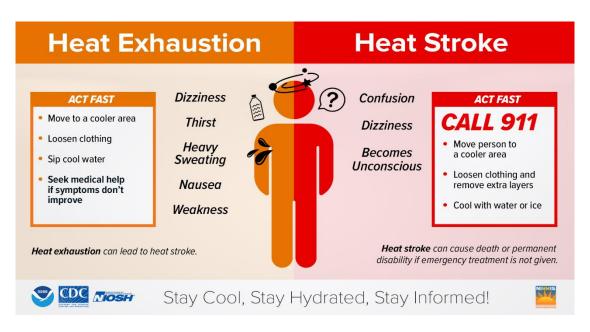
Heat cramps may be the first sign of heat-related illness and may lead to heat exhaustion or stroke. Symptoms include painful muscle cramps and spasms, usually in legs and abdomen, and heavy sweating. First aid for someone experiencing heat cramps includes applying firm pressure on cramping muscles or 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.



## MONEY FOR FARM IMPROVEMENTS



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 The heaviest

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

MILLION POUNDS.

THERE ARE OVER

100,000 ACRES

OF WATERMELONS
GROWN IN THE U.S.,
PRODUCING OVER 40

Watermelons live up to their name!

They are 92% water!

OF WATERMELONS There are roughly

1,200 varieties of watermelons!



uatermelon

ueighed in at

THE FIRST WATERVHELON
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

#### Directions:

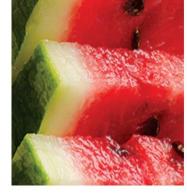
- 1. Combine watermelon, blueberries, cucumber, onion and pepper in large serving
- 2. Sprinkle with garlic salt. Toss to coat.
- 3. Stir in lime juice and balsamic vinegar.
- 4. Cover and chill one hour.

Source: Plate it up! Kentucky Proud Project.

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



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





#### **LAND RENTAL AGREEMENTS** J. Rogers, Economic and Policy Update, Department of Agricultural Economics

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.



Mercer County Extension Office 1007 Lexington Road Harrodsburg, KY 40330

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG US POSTAGE PAID HARRODSBURG, KY PERMIT #72



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** 



