

To: Lawrence County Producers

RE: Fall Newsletter

Beef & Forage Field Day at MTREC

The Middle TN AgResearch Center in Spring Hill along with the South Central Extension Team invites you to our annual Beef & Forage Field Day on September 24th from 8:30 am - 2pm CST.

This field day will provide a way to educate producers on some of the newest technologies in precision livestock as well as provide updates on current production practices. It will also be an opportunity for producers to see resources first hand that support the beef and forage industry.

The Field Day Schedule is below:

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| 8:30 am | Registration/Check-in |
| 9 – 11 am | Dr. Renata Nave Oakes “Utilizing crabgrass in the summer – production and quality of different varieties”
Dr. Katie Mason & Dr. Bruno Pedreira “Hay Quality: From Soil to Rumen”
Dr. Saulo Zoca & Jim Rhoades “Demonstration of Pregnancy Detection Methods” |
| 11 – 12:30 pm | Lunch & Visit Vendor Tents
Speaker: Stefan Maupin, Executive Director of Tennessee Soybean Promotion Council |
| 12:30 – 1 pm | Dr. Hao Gan “Developing an Automatic Body Condition Scoring System for Cattle Using Computer Vision” |

1-1:30 pm Dr. Lanett Edwards “Time for Some R&R: Importance of Research When Striving to Maximize Reproductive Efficiency”

1:30 – 2 pm Dr. Troy Rowan “Using Genomics to Understand Cow Efficiency and Sustainability Traits”

To register for the field day go to the following link: [Beef and Forage Field Day 2024 \(touchnet.com\)](https://touchnet.com/Beef-and-Forage-Field-Day-2024)

This event will also be a part of the Fall Giles/Lawrence/Maury Counties Master Beef Producer 2 day Class. Registration for the MBP Class will also include your registration for the field day.

Location address: 1000 Main Entrance Dr., Spring Hill, TN 37174

Master Beef Producer Classes

For the upcoming 2024 TAEP, anyone who has completed the Master Beef Producer Program or one of the other qualified Masters Programs in 2021 or after are current in their certification. **BQA is no longer required to apply for TAEP** and will become part of the Master Beef Producer Class. An approved Masters Certification will now be required at the time of re-imbusement and all TAEP grants will be paid at the 50% level. If you are not current in your certification or have never taken the class there are several Master Beef Producer Classes that are scheduled.

There will be 2 face-to-face opportunities this fall for producers to complete the Tennessee Master Beef Producer Class.

1. 2 Day Version---Monday evening Sept. 23 and Tuesday all day Sept. 24. The location will be at the Middle Tennessee Research & Education Center in Spring Hill. On Tuesday we will use the Beef & Forage Field Day as part of our class.
2. Monday Evening Version –Monday, Sept. 23, Monday, Sept. 30, Monday, Oct. 7 & Monday, Oct. 14. Each evening class will begin at 5pm. The locations will rotate between Spring Hill, Pulaski & Lawrenceburg.

The cost for the Face-to-Face Classes will be \$125

A fall virtual class will be offered as well by the UT Extension Beef Specialists beginning on September 3rd. The 2024 Master Beef Fall Webinar Series will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 PM Eastern/5:30 PM Central, starting September 3rd and ending September 26th, for a total of 8 webinars. Participants must attend at least 7 of the 8 classes for Master Beef Certification. The cost for the virtual class will be \$100.

Pre-registration is required to attend any of the Master Beef Producer Classes. Register at the Extension Office or go on-line at the below web-site.

[Tennessee Master Beef Producer | Lawrence County](#)

2024-2025 TAEP Highlights

The 2024-2025 TAEP Applications will soon be available on-line. **One big change this year is that all TAEP applications must be submitted on-line.** There will no paper booklet applications available and producers will not be able to submit applications through regular mail. Applicants must have a valid email address to apply on-line. If you don't currently have an email address you can establish one or use a family members address.

The TAEP application period is October 1-7. For those who may need assistance in applying on-line you can contact the Extension Office at 762-5506 and schedule a time to come by for assistance. I have set aside 2 days to assist those that need help applying on-line: Wednesday, Oct. 2 and Monday, Oct. 7.

Some notable changes to this year's program:

- 1. All TAEP applications must be submitted on-line and producers will need a valid email address, access to both an electronic device and the internet.**

****** For more information about the 2024 TAEP and to apply go to:**

www.tn.gov/taep

2. BQA Certification will no longer be required to apply for TAEP and will become a part of the Master Beef Producer Program.
3. An approved Master's Certification will now be required by all applicants at the time of re-imbusement and all grants will be paid at the 50% level.
4. Both Hay Storage and Hay Equipment will be offered and qualified producers can apply for either this year.
5. The eligibility for hay equipment has changed and only producers that cut 100 acres of first cutting hay can apply.
6. For Hay storage there is now a 1200 sqft minimum and only stand-alone sheds will be allowed. Side sheds to existing structures will not be eligible.
7. Bush Hogs have been added to the livestock equipment list and must be a minimum of 8ft.
8. GPS's have been removed from both the Row Crop and the Livestock Equipment programs.

**** These are just a few of the main changes in the 2024 TAEP. For more information contact the Lawrence County Extension Office or visit the TAEP web-site:

www.tn.gov/taep

Lawrence/Wayne County Cattlemen's Assc. Fall Field Day

The Lawrence/Wayne County Cattlemen's Association have planned their Fall Field Day for **Saturday, October 5 beginning at 9:30 am at the new Wayne County Extension Officer/Agri-Center**. A sponsored lunch will conclude the field day. Pre-registration is required by Thursday, Oct. 3rd by calling either the Lawrence (762-556) or the Wayne County Extension (722-3229) or emailing-- ibryant1@utk.edu

For those that may need assistance in the on-line application process of applying for TAEP---

We will have volunteers and computers on hand prior to the field day beginning at 8am to assist you in this process. Remember that you must have a valid email address in order to apply. If you don't currently have an email address you can establish one or use a family members address.

Livestock Producers in Lawrence County Are Eligible for Drought Recovery Assistance

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Lawrence County has announced that FSA is now accepting applications for the [Livestock Forage Disaster Program](#)

[\(LFP\)](#) for grazing losses due to drought. The deadline to apply for 2024 LFP assistance is January 30, 2025.

LFP provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land or fire on federally managed land. For LFP, qualifying drought intensity levels are determined using the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#). Producers in Lawrence County are eligible to apply for 2024 LFP benefits for grazing losses on native pasture, improved pasture mixed forage, and forage sorghum. Visit the [FSA LFP webpage](#) for a full list of eligible counties and pasture types.

Livestock eligible for LFP include alpacas, beef cattle, bison, buffalo, beefalo, dairy cattle, deer, elk, emus, equine, goats, llamas, ostriches, reindeer, or sheep that have been or would have been grazing the eligible grazing land or pastureland. Recently, FSA updated LFP policy to expand program eligibility to include additional income producing grazing animals, like horses and ostrich, that contribute to the commercial viability of an agricultural operation.

Livestock used for hunting and consumption by the owner and horses and other animals that are used or intended to be used for racing and wagering remain ineligible.

As a reminder, producers who want to participate in many USDA programs including disaster assistance programs like LFP, must file timely acreage reports by filling out the FSA-578 form to remain eligible for program benefits. Livestock producers interested in applying LFP should contact the Lawrence County FSA at 931-762-6913 Ext #2 with any questions about the eligibility of specific livestock and forage crops.

More information in USDA disaster assistance is available at farmers.gov/recover

Fall Forage Challenges

Pastures and hayfield are showing the extreme results of our lack of rainfall and extended drought conditions. Rotational grazing if possible is highly encourage to rest stressed forage and give cattle a fresh source of nutrition. If we do get moisture in the next few weeks and grass starts growing, it may still provide an opportunity for stockpiling fescue. This strategy will only work if we do get ample moisture before it gets too late as we get into late September and into early October. Refer to a recent article from UT Extension Beef Specialist, Dr. Katie Mason for more information on Stockpiling:

[Cattle Nutrition: Time to Consider Stockpiling | UT Beef & Forage Center \(tennessee.edu\)](#)

Continue to be cautious and keep a look out for the fall armyworms. The first reports of the fall armyworms started coming in early August in all parts of the county. These reports have slowed in recent days as we have been getting dryer but producers are encouraged to remain on high alert as we are nearing the time for the second generation to emerge. For more information on managing for the fall armyworms refer to the below web-site:

<https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/farming/management-of-fall-armyworm-in-pastures-and-hayfields/>

Another concern for forage producers in dealing with drought conditions is the potential of forage plants accumulating nitrates. As plant growth slows due to extreme drought conditions the plants retain nitrogen in the form of nitrates which can be toxic to livestock. The plants most susceptible to nitrate toxicity are the sorghum/sudan grass hybrids, millets and johnsongrass. The chance of the plants accumulating nitrates is correlated to the amount of fertilizer (nitrogen in particular) and the extreme conditions of the drought slowing the plant growth. If you have a concern about your forage and nitrates contact me at the Extension Office. We have a very simple test that can be done to check for the potential of nitrates in your forage.

Lastly producers need to be ramp up their awareness of potential toxic plant issues. As the drought conditions continue and livestock get hungrier, they are more apt to consume toxic plants. One of our most common toxic plants that is seen in Lawrence County pastures is Perilla Mint. Perilla Mint causes more cattle deaths in Tennessee than any other toxic plant.

Refer to the below publication for more information on Perilla Mint:

[W135 \(tennessee.edu\)](#)

Woods & Wildlife Workshop

The South Central Extension Team has planned a fall “Woods & Wildlife Workshop” for Tuesday, October 15th beginning at 5pm at the Lawrence County Extension Office.

UT Extension Forestry Specialist, Dr. Stephen Peairs will be presenting a session on Timber Management for Deer Habitat. UT Extension Outdoor Recreation Specialist, Ronnie Cowan will be conducting a hands-on Hunters Harvest fabrication demonstration.

We will be serving deer chili for dinner.

Pre-registration is required by October 9th at: <https://tiny.utk.edu/woodswildlife>

All attendees should pre-register here to insure that we prepare enough food.



Lawrence County
PO Box 100
Lawrenceburg, TN, 38464
931-762-5506
lawrence.tennessee.edu

Calendar of Events

September

9/5	TSU Small Farm Expo	TSU Farm Nashville
9/20	Lawrenceburg Bridle & Saddle Club "Ride Day"	
9/19-9/29	Middle Tennessee District Fair	
9/22	MTDFair Horse Show	1pm
9/23	MTDFair Sheep Show	5pm
9/24	MTDFair Dairy Show	5pm
9/25	MTDFair Meat Goat Show	5pm
9/26	MTDFair Open Beef Show 1	5pm
9/27	MTDFair Open Beef Show 2	5pm
9/28	MTDFair Jr. Beef Show	3pm
9/28	MTDFair Lawrence County 4-H Ham Club Ham Sale	5pm

October

10/1-10/7 TAEF Application

10/1 *Welcome Home Series --- Climate/Soils & Sustainability in our Landscape

10/8 *Welcome Home Series --- Annuals and Perennials

10/15 *Welcome Home Series --- Shrubs and Trees

10/22 *Welcome Home Series --- Lawns

*All Welcome Home Series Classes will start at 5:30pm at the Lawrence County Extension Office

10/5 LWCCA Beef Fall Beef Field Day Wayne County Ag. Center

10/8 Water Bath Canning Class 5:30pm Lawrence County Ext. Office

10/15 Woods & Wildlife Workshop 5pm Lawrence County Ext. Office

10/25 Small Ruminant Management Workshop MTREC/Spring Hill

Thanks,

Calvin Bryant

Extension Director

UT-TSU Extension Lawrence County

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Lawrenceburg, TN 38464

931-762-5506 Office / 931-231-0613 Mobile / 931-766-1589 Fax

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Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences and resource development. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S.

Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating. UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.