


# MESSENGER-INQUIRER

 Cooperative  
Extension Service



## Farm Update

[daviess.ca.uky.edu](http://daviess.ca.uky.edu)

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES  
EDUCATION

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### Soybean Success School

Soybeans are traditionally a low-risk crop, one that can be planted with a reasonable yield expectation even in extreme weather years. They are the least expensive crop we grow, and the price is usually at a profitable level, even if less than preferred. This year, soybean profit is going to be as important as ever, offsetting a less than breakeven margin anticipated for corn. To help in preparing to grow a high-profit soybean crop this year, I've planned a one-day Soybean Success School at the office on February 19 to help understand the agronomic, fertility, and disease control factors that affect yield, and those that don't. Marketing, historical basis, and budgets will be covered as well.

Dr. Chad Lee, UK Extension specialist for grain crops will cover agronomy. Some of the topics he will cover include general plant physiology and the major factors of yield determination. He'll discuss the correlation between maturity groups and planting dates. Some recent UK research indicates elevated temperatures at early seed development decreased test weight. A better understanding of matching soybean maturities and planting dates will help test weight. Post-residual herbicide timing in early planted soybeans is another area of UK research. Overlapping residual herbicides or successive treatments are being studied to determine the best control.

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Dr. Carl Bradley, UK Extension specialist for soybean disease will provide pathology updates. He'll cover soybean cyst nematode and what the checkoff funded University of Illinois testing is telling us about KY SCN numbers. He'll share his evaluation of foliar fungicides in soybeans at Princeton in 2023. He will speak on the results of fungicide seed treatment studies in Daviess County and the UK research farm at Lexington.

Dr. Edwin Ritchey, UK Extension soil specialist will explain soil pH and the UK position on the need for micronutrients and/or extra nitrogen to obtain maximum yield. He will provide a comparison of spoon-feeding foliar nutrients versus blended preplant dry fertilizer applied at recommended rates.

Dr. Grant Gardner, UK Extension specialist, will help participants develop a marketing plan based on the current market expectations.

There will be a \$10 registration fee and pre-registration is requested by calling the Extension office or emailing me at [chardy@uky.edu](mailto:chardy@uky.edu). CCA and Pesticide CEUs are approved.

## **Annie's Project – Farm Management Program for Women**

It's been over eight years since we conducted Annie's Project in this area, and we are excited to bring it back. The program meets weekly from February 21 to March 27, and classes will rotate between Daviess and Henderson Counties. Annie's Project is a general farm management program designed to help spouses better understand the business side of the farm operation.

Many women are involved in bookkeeping and payroll. Some are active in production activities. Most have limited involvement focusing on the house, kids, and their careers.

Annie's Project is for women in all the above scenarios. The program discusses interpersonal

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relationships between family farm partners and employees. Financial discussions include lending, terminology, and investments. Legal topics such as how land and property might be titled and general liability will be discussed. Also covered are aspects of production and enterprise evaluation and product marketing.

The goal is to empower farm women with knowledge that will contribute to the overall vitality of their family business. It is a hands-on and enjoyable way to meet and network with people from across the area.

There is a registration fee. Call the extension office for more information.

## **Nuisance Weed Spraying Program 2024**

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture is providing a broadleaf weed control program for pastures and hay fields this spring. Apply online now through February 28.

<https://www.kyagr.com/consumer/nuisance-weed-spraying-program-application.aspx>.

The department will provide a boomless pull-type sprayer and 10 pints of 2,4-D herbicide for the treatment of 10 acres of hay or pastureland. The farm may provide an additional 10 pints to treat an additional 10 acres. The participant must provide water, a tractor, and a driver. If you've been considering a weed management program for your forage land, this program is an excellent demonstration to determine if it is best for your production system.

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