

GRAVES COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS



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

GRAVES COUNTY
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
SERVICE

4200 US HWY 45

MAYFIELD, KY 42066

(270)247-2334

GRAVES.EXT@UKY.EDU

APRIL 2023

IN THIS EDITION:

- AGENT NOTES
- SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
- CROPS
- FORAGES
- LIVESTOCK
- HORTICULTURE
- WEATHER NOTES
- MISCELLANEOUS





I think it's safe to say that spring is finally in full swing! I hope this newsletter finds you out in the warm spring sunshine working in whatever brings you joy!

Over the past 2 months I held 3 training opportunities to renew your Private Applicator Certification. If you were unable to make it to one of those, your next option is to schedule a time with me to take the test so I can get you squared away for the next 3 years! If yours is going to expire at the end of this year, be on the lookout for applicator trainings next winter so you aren't caught without it when you need it!

If you're interested in home gardening and maybe some backyard homesteading classes, I have started a series that will run through the summer covering some of these type of topics that you may like to join us for. My next class will be a broad look at different types of pollinators and I would love for you to join us! Please do RSVP so I know the amount of food and supplies to have ready.

Myself and a few other agents are hosting a Small Ruminant Field Day on May 2nd in Calloway County. Learn about foot trimming, increasing feed efficiencies, and take a pasture walk to learn more about what it takes to make a productive pasture. There is a flyer attached to this newsletter with more information!

I have several copies of ID-128 Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky on hand. This is a great publication that has a variety of information that is important for your gardens. Stop by the office and grab a copy so you have it handy to reference easily throughout the growing season. I also have AGR-6 Weed Control Recommendations for Kentucky Grain Crops and the new ID-160 Burley and Dark Tobacco Production Guides available if you need a copy of those.

As we move into busy season, know that I'm just a quick phone call or email away if you have any questions or a concern that you would like me to look into! I may not have the answer myself, but rest assured, I'll find someone who does. Here's to a wonderful start to spring and successful growing season!

Miranda Rudolph

Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources

Graves County

miranda.rudolph@uky.edu | 270.247.2334 | 270.978.7052



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Bolded events are hosted by the Graves County Extension Office. Please call the office at 270-247-2334 for more information or to sign up to attend!

- April 4- Poultry Webinar: Incubator Management, 2pm - Online
- April 5 - Horticulture Webinar: Seed Packets 11:30am - <https://tinyurl.com/23AprHWW>
- **April 10 - Gardening Class: Pollinators, 5:30pm - GCEO**
- April 12 - Horticulture Webinar: Tulips 11:30am - <https://tinyurl.com/23AprHWW>
- April 19 - Horticulture Webinar: Apple Care 11:30am- <https://tinyurl.com/23AprHWW>
- April 25-26 - Beginning Grazing School- Princeton
- April 26- Horticulture Webinar: TBD 11:30am - <https://tinyurl.com/23AprHWW>
- May 2 - Small Ruminant Field Day, 3:30pm - Chadwick Sheep Co.
- May 4 - Poultry Webinar: Waterfowl Hatching - 2pm - Online
- May 9 - UK Wheat Field Day - UKREC Farm, Princeton

**“IN THE SPRING, AT THE
END OF THE DAY, YOU
SHOULD SMELL LIKE
DIRT.” -MARGARET
ATWOOD**



Find us on
Facebook



KENTUCKY SOYBEAN PLANTING RECOMMENDATIONS

After experiencing the warmest winter on record for most of the state, producers are gearing up for planting season. With above average soil temperatures some may even be tempted to plant earlier than usual. Regardless, it is always good to refresh with the fundamentals of soybean planting in Kentucky

Planting Date and Soil Temperature

To achieve maximum yield of a full-season soybean crop the recommended planting date for Western Kentucky is mid-April through early May and by mid-May in Central Kentucky, but soil temperatures need to be warm enough before starting. Soil temperatures 2 inches below the ground need to reach and **sustain** at least 50 degrees F, and there also needs to be no risk for a killing freeze. Cool, wet soil conditions can result in delayed emergence as well as slower germination. Seed vigor is important to know when planting into cool, wet conditions. Vigor ratings are not on most seed labels but can easily be obtained by asking the seed dealer or submitting a sample to UK regulatory services.

Seed Treatment and Pest Management

If soybeans are planted into cooler soil conditions, precautions such as fungicide and insecticide seed treatments should also be considered. Fields with a history of Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS) can still be planted early, however, specific seed treatment products that have efficacy against SDS and highly resistant varieties should be considered. Insect pressure can also cause stand losses. Bean leaf beetle damage can be easily identified by pitting of the cotyledons after emergence. An insecticide seed treatment should also be considered, especially if an early planting date is attempted.

Planting Depth, Seeding Rate and Inoculant

The recommended harvest population of soybean plants is 100,000 plants/acre. With all factors being considered such as germination rate, stand losses from insects, seedling diseases, and cool soil conditions, seeding rate should reflect the expected losses to these factors. Soybeans should be planted between 1 and 2 inches deep in the soil. If seeding depth is deeper, the risk increases for the seed not emerging from ground. Fields that have been overly wet through the winter or have not had a recent history of soybean planting, 3 to 5 years, should be inoculated when planting.

Additional information is available in UK extension publication [ID:249: Soybean Management in Kentucky](#) and [AGR-130](#).



Conner Raymond
Extension Associate Grain Crops
(859) 365-7541 ext 21352
Conner.raymond@uky.edu



Carrie Knott, Ph.D.
Grain Crops Extension Specialist,
Princeton UKREC Managing Director
(859) 562-1320
Carrie.Knott@uky.edu
 @KYGrains

**APPLY ONLINE,
EMAIL MIRANDA, OR STOP BY THE OFFICE FOR A COPY
OF THE REGISTRATION PAGE!**

2023 Kentucky Beginning Grazing School
Helping livestock producers improve profitability with classroom and hands-on learning

When: April 25-26, 2023

Where: Kentucky Soybean Board Office
1000 Highway 62 West, Princeton, KY 42445

Cost: \$60/Participant – includes all materials, grazing manual, grazing stick, fencing kit, morning refreshments, morning refreshment, and lunch both days

Program Registration: DEADLINE is April 10, 2023

Online Registration with CREDIT CARD AT:

https://2023_Spring_KY_Grazing_School.eventbrite.com

Registration by U.S. Mail with CHECK:

Christi Forsythe
UK Research and Education Center
P.O. Box 469, Princeton, KY 42445

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____



Number of participants _____ x \$60 per participant = _____ Total Amount

Please make checks payable to KFGC



West KY Small Ruminant Field Day

From forages to feet! Join us for an afternoon of on farm speeches and demonstrations on topics relating to profitable sheep and goat production.

Hoof Trimming Demonstration

Join Extension Agent Miranda Rudolph as she demonstrates proper hoof trimming techniques and explains what to look for when caring for your stock's hooves!

Pasture Walk

Follow Dr. Megan Taylor as she leads you on a pasture walk while discussing the best ways to renovate and maintain healthy pastures for your small ruminants!

Increasing Efficiencies

Listen in as Agent and Owner of Chadwick Sheep Company, Matt Chadwick, as he shares tips on how to increase feed and reproduction efficiency!

May 2nd

3:30pm

Chadwick Sheep Company

761 Kirksey Almo Rd

Murray, KY 42071

(Rain Reschedule Date: May 4th)

 **Free** 
Hoof Trimming Kits



Space is limited! Must RSVP by calling (270) 527-3285

This program is a collaborative effort brought to you by the Marshall, Calloway, Graves and McCracken County Extension Offices.

Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Science
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, creed, 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
LEXINGTON, KY 40546




Disabilities accommodated with prior notification



176 Pasadena Drive
Lexington KY 40503
kbn@kycattle.org

Lexington, KY
3/8/2023

University of Kentucky Extension and Kentucky Beef Network offer Free BQCA Certifications in April and September

The Kentucky Beef Network and University of Kentucky Extension are pleased to announce that they will be offering free Beef Quality and Care Assurance (BQCA) certifications in April 2023 and September 2023.

The Kentucky BQCA program takes national BQA practices one step further to provide a holistic program for Kentucky producers, by adding cattle handling and animal care components to the training modules. Educational modules provide the best management practices for handling cattle and providing for their well-being, in addition to training on the core principles of BQA.

The cost of BQCA enrollment is \$5 for in person training through their local county extension office and \$10 for online training, however from April 1- 30, 2023 and September 1-30, 2023 the Kentucky Beef Network and University of Kentucky Extension will be sponsoring the enrollment costs, making it free for producers.

Producers interested in taking advantage of this opportunity can visit www.kybeefnetwork.com to access the online training platform or contact their county extension office for training opportunities. "We are very excited for this partnership for our Kentucky cattlemen to continue to tell their story to consumers through sound management practices," says Kevin Laurent University of Kentucky Co-BQCA Coordinator.

.....

The Kentucky Beef Network and University of Kentucky merged their Cattle Handling and Care Program with the National BQA program to create a new program, aptly named the Beef Quality and Care Assurance (BQCA) program. This program was implemented to raise awareness of practices that ensure the proper handling and welfare of cattle while keeping farmers safe and continuing to supply healthy beef to consumers. In turn, this program enables beef and dairy producers to enhance their product, maximize marketability and strengthen consumer confidence.

2023 POULTRY WEBINARS

ALL WEBINARS BEGIN AT 2PM CST/3PM EST

- FEBRUARY 7: REPRODUCTIVE ISSUES WITH SMALL AND BACKYARD POULTRY FLOCKS
- MARCH 7: RAISING TURKEYS IN SMALL AND BACKYARD FLOCKS
- APRIL 4: DAILY MANAGEMENT OF A HOME POULTRY INCUBATOR
- MAY 4: HATCHING WATERFOWL EGGS IN A HOME INCUBATOR
- JUNE 6: DOING FECAL FLOTATIONS FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF INTESTINAL PARASITES IN POULTRY ** THIS DATE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**
- AUGUST 1: SANITIZING IN A POULTRY HOUSE
- SEPTEMBER 5: ORGANIZING A COUNTY POULTRY SHOW
- OCTOBER 3: RESPIRATORY ISSUES WITH POULTRY
- NOVEMBER 7: DESIGNING A SMALL FLOCK POULTRY HOUSE
- DECEMBER 5: MANAGING A POULTRY FLOCK ON PASTURE

Visit poultry.extension.org/webinars to register for upcoming webinars or watch past webinars!



Issues • Innovation • Impact

A Part of the Cooperative Extension System



West Kentucky Small Ruminant Workshop

Learn more about the basics of sheep and goat production with the Kentucky Sheep and Goat Development Office!

WHEN: April 1, 2023

WHERE: Christian County Extension Office
2850 Pembroke Rd, Hopkinsville KY

Registration is \$12 and includes all materials and a catered lunch.



<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/west-kentucky-small-ruminant-workshop-tickets-576158494567>





APRIL CLASSES

Wednesdays
12:30 p.m. ET/ 11:30 a.m. CT

April 5

SAY WHAT? Seed packet terminology

April 12

Tulips

April 19

Early Season Apple Care

April 26

TBD

Register Here:

<https://tinyurl.com/23AprHww>



SAFE PLANTING DATES FOR KY!

Table 15. Earliest and latest planting dates in the garden in Kentucky. (If producing your own transplants, plant two to 12 weeks earlier than these listed dates. See Table 6.)

Crops	Earliest Safe Planting Date			Latest Safe Planting Date ¹		
	Western	Central	Eastern	Eastern	Central	Western
Asparagus (crowns)	Mar 10	Mar 15	Mar 20			
Beans (snap)	Apr 10	Apr 25	May 1	July 15	July 25	Aug 1
Beans (lima)	Apr 15	May 1	May 10	June 15	June 20	July 1
Beets	Mar 10	Mar 15	Mar 20	Aug 1	Aug 10	Aug 15
Broccoli (plants)	Mar 30	Apr 5	Apr 10	July 15	Aug 1	Aug 15
B. Sprouts (plants)	Mar 30	Apr 5	Apr 10	July 1	July 15	Aug 1
Cabbage	Mar 15	Mar 25	Apr 1	July 1	July 15	Aug 1
Carrots	Mar 10	Mar 20	Apr 1	July 1	July 15	Aug 1
Cauliflower (plants)	Mar 30	Apr 5	Apr 10	July 15	July 20	Aug 5
Celery	Apr 1	Apr 5	Apr 10	June 15	July 1	July 15
Chard	Mar 15	Mar 20	Apr 1	June 15	July 15	Aug 1
Collards	Mar 1	Mar 10	Mar 15	Aug 15	Aug 20	Aug 30
Sweet Corn	Apr 10	Apr 20	May 1	June 15	July 10	July 20
Cucumbers	Apr 20	May 1	May 10	June 15	July 1	July 15
Eggplant (plants)	May 1	May 10	May 15	June 1	June 15	July 1
Garlic	-	-	-	Nov 1	Nov 7	Nov 15
Kale	Mar 10	Mar 20	Apr 1	July 15	Aug 1	Aug 15
Kohlrabi	Mar 15	Mar 20	Mar 25	July 15	Aug 1	Aug 15
Lettuce (leaf)	Mar 15	Mar 25	Apr 1	Aug 1	Aug 15	Sept 1
Lettuce (bibb plants)	Mar 15	Mar 25	Apr 1	July 15	Aug 1	Aug 15
Lettuce (head plants)	Mar 15	Mar 25	Apr 1	July 1	July 15	Aug 1
Muskmelons	Apr 20	May 10	May 15	June 15	July 1	July 15
Okra	Apr 20	May 10	May 15	July 1	July 15	Aug 1
Onions (sets)	Mar 1	Mar 10	Mar 15		(Spring only)	
Onions (plants)	Mar 15	Mar 25	Apr 1	June 15	July 1	July 15
Onions (seed)	Mar 10	Mar 20	Apr 1	June 1	June 15	July 1
Parsley	Mar 10	Mar 20	Apr 1	July 15	Aug 1	Aug 15
Parsnips	Mar 10	Mar 20	Apr 1	June 1	June 15	July 1
Peas	Feb 20	Mar 1	Mar 15		(Spring only)	
Peppers (plants)	May 1	May 10	May 20	June 15	July 1	July 15
Irish Potatoes	Mar 15	Mar 15	Mar 20	June 15	July 1	July 15
Sweet Potatoes	May 1	May 10	May 20	June 1	June 10	June 15
Pumpkins	Apr 20	May 5	May 10	June 1	June 15	July 1
Radishes	Mar 1	Mar 10	Mar 15	Sept 1	Sept 15	Oct 1
Rhubarb (crowns)	Mar 1	Mar 10	Mar 15		(Spring only)	
Rutabaga	Mar 1	Mar 10	Mar 15	July 1	July 10	July 15
Southern Peas	Apr 20	May 5	May 10	June 15	July 1	July 15
Snow Peas	Feb 20	Mar 1	Mar 15	July 20	Aug 1	Aug 8
Spinach	Feb 15	Mar 1	Mar 10	Aug 15	Sept 1	Sept 15
Summer Squash	Apr 20	May 10	May 15	July 15	Aug 1	Aug 15
Tomatoes (plants)	Apr 20	May 5	May 15	June 1	June 15	July 1
Turnips	Mar 1	Mar 10	Mar 15	Aug 1	Aug 10	Aug 20
Watermelons	Apr 20	May 5	May 15	June 15	July 1	July 15
Winter Squash	Apr 20	May 10	May 15	June 15	July 1	July 15

¹ Based on average of early maturing varieties. Mid-season and late-maturing varieties need to be planted 15 to 30 days earlier than latest date. Nearly all of the fall-planted garden crops will require irrigation during dry periods. Additional insect controls may be necessary for these tender young plants.



**STOP BY THE
GRAVES COUNTY
EXTENSION OFFICE
AND GET YOUR
COPY OF ID-128
FOR ALL OF YOUR
HOME GARDENING
INFO!**

OUR NEXT GARDENING CLASS!

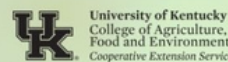
GRAVES COUNTY GARDEN SERIES

POLLINATORS

Join us as we discuss pollinators: What they are, what they do, and how to provide good habitats for them!

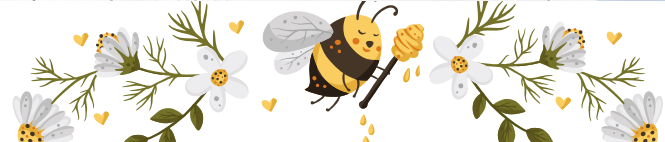
Graves County Extension Office
Monday, April 10th
5:30 pm

Please call the Graves County Extension Office to RSVP at 270-247-2334



Cooperative Extension Service
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, creed, 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.
LEXINGTON, KY 40546





Spring Outlook for the State of Kentucky

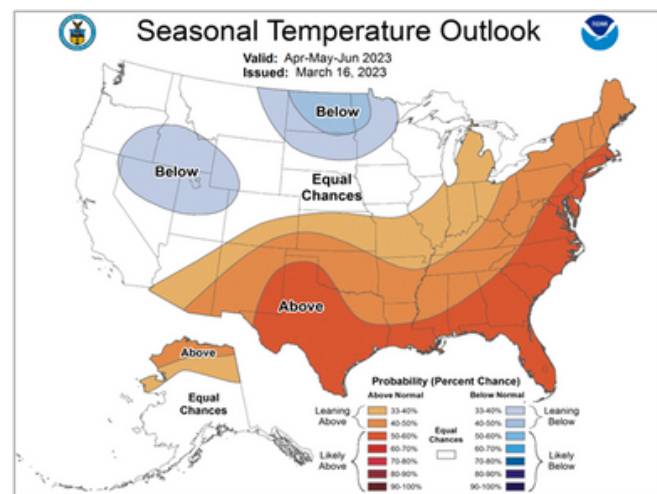
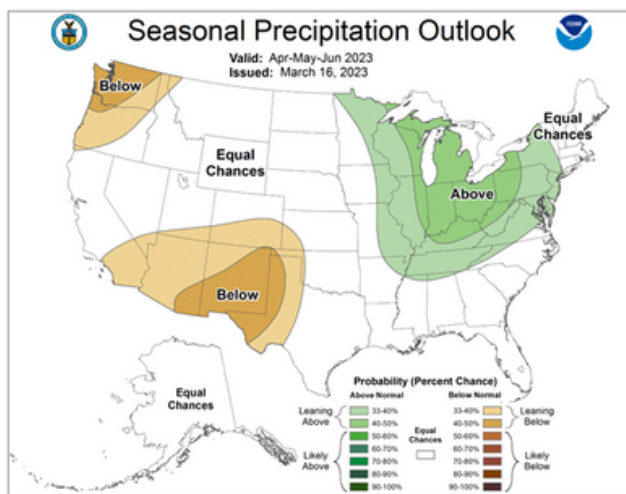


By Simone Lewis - National Weather Service Charleston, WV

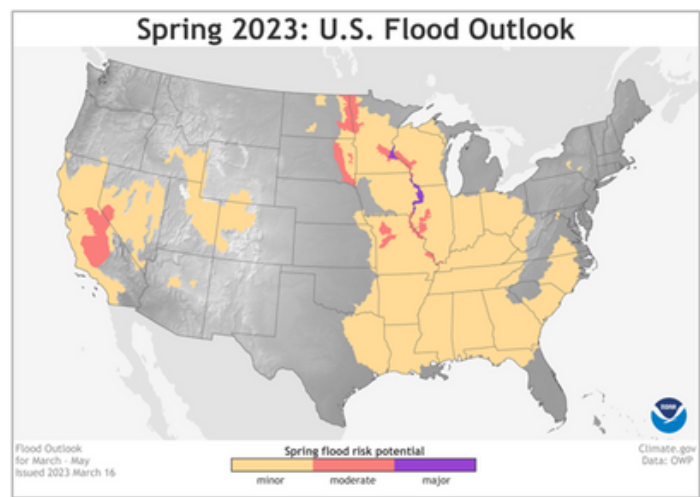
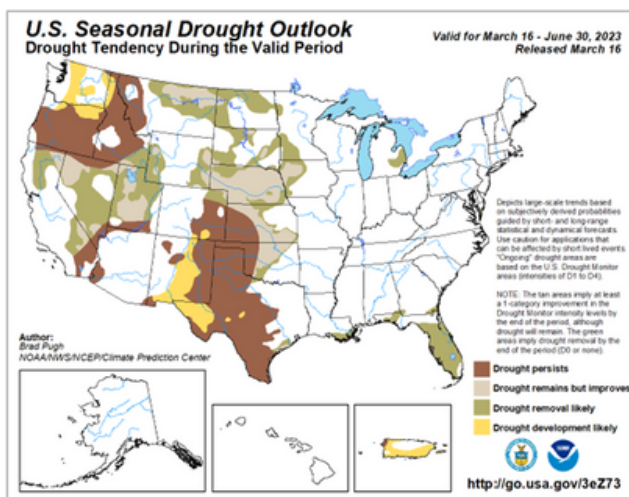
The Official Spring Outlook (April-June) for the state of Kentucky was released from the Climate Prediction Center on March 16th, 2023.

Keep in mind, the colors on the graphics reflect a numbered "probability", or percent chance, of above or below normal values. It does NOT mean that the darker the color the more above normal or below normal we will be, but rather a better probability (or chance) of being above or below normal. Also, this is an average across a three month period, which means there could still be periods of warmer/colder than normal temperatures or above/below normal precipitation.

Here are the spring precipitation and temperature outlooks for the state of Kentucky:



According to the images, the state of Kentucky has a 40% to 50% chance of above normal precipitation across the northern half of the state, and a 33% to 40% chance of above normal precipitation across the southern half. The state of Kentucky is also predicted to have a 40% to 50% chance of above normal temperatures across the eastern half of the state, and 33% to 40% chance across the western portions of the state. In addition, drought is not expected to develop across the state, but there is at least a 50% of minor flooding during the spring season.



EXTENSION EXHIBITS



Farm and Garden

FIELD
SEED
GRAIN

FRUITS
VEGETABLES
PLANTS
FLOWERS

HONEY
SORGHUM
EGGS

ENTRY CHECK IN

TUESDAY, JUNE 6
9:00 - 11:00 AM
EXPO 1

LOCATION

GRAVES COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS

1004 KY-121
MAYFIELD, KY
42066

ENTRY CHECK OUT

MONDAY, JUNE 12
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
EXPO 1

premium money will be mailed within two weeks

printed rules are available at the Graves County Extension Office
or find them online <http://graves.ca.uky.edu>



Scrumptious Strawberry Salad

5 cups spinach	Dressing	3 tablespoons
½ large cabbage head, chopped	¾ cup plain non-fat Greek yogurt or plain regular yogurt	olive oil
1 cup golden raisins	3 tablespoons honey	½ teaspoon Dijon mustard
1 cup halved red grapes	6 tablespoons apple cider vinegar	1 teaspoon poppy seeds
1 pint sliced strawberries		1 teaspoon salt
½ small red onion, sliced		½ teaspoon pepper
½ cup toasted and chopped pecans (optional)		

Combine all salad ingredients together in a large bowl. Prepare salad dressing by **mixing** all ingredients together in a jar, **cover**, and **shake** well to combine. **Pour** dressing over salad mixture and **toss** to combine.

Yield: 8, 2-cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 240 calories, 10g fat, 1g saturated fat, 0mg cholesterol, 340mg sodium, 33g carbohydrate, 4g fiber, 27g sugar, 6g added sugars, 5g protein



Spinach Pasta Bake

2 cups whole wheat penne pasta	1½ teaspoons dry basil	1 can (14 ounces) Italian diced tomatoes, drained
1 pound lean ground beef	1 teaspoon garlic powder	10 ounces fresh spinach, chopped
1 large onion, chopped	1 teaspoon dried oregano	1 cup low-fat shredded Mozzarella cheese
1 large carrot, shredded		
1 teaspoon black pepper		

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. **Cook** pasta according to package directions. **Drain** and **cover** to keep warm. In a large skillet over medium heat, **cook** the beef and onions until beef is no longer pink. **Drain. Return** beef to skillet. **Add** carrots and spices and **cook** an additional two minutes. **Stir** in tomatoes. **Reduce** heat to low. **Cover** and **simmer** 10 minutes. **Add** pasta and

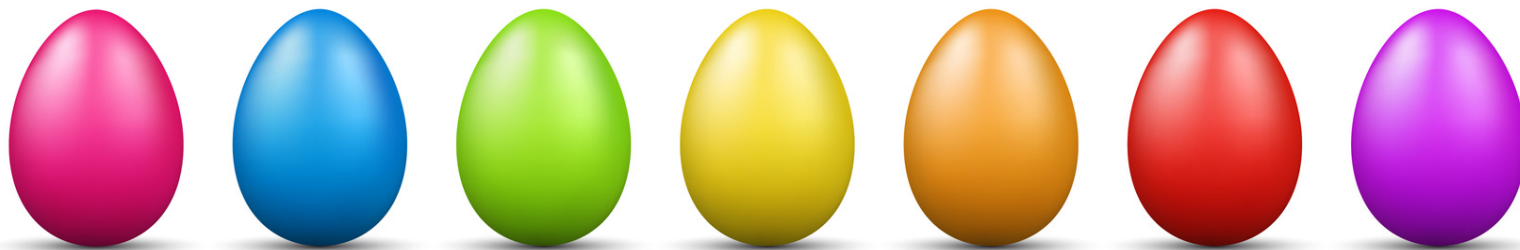
spinach and mix well. **Cover** and **cook** an additional 3 minutes or until spinach is wilted. **Pour** into greased 3-quart baking dish. **Sprinkle** with Mozzarella cheese. **Bake**, uncovered for 10 minutes.

Yield: 9, 1 cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 200 calories, 4.5 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 35 mg cholesterol, 270 mg sodium, 25 g carbohydrate, 4 g fiber, 4 g sugars, 18 g protein.



Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand.
<http://plateitup.ca.uky.edu>



State Cost Share Program for 2023-2024

Applications are currently being accepted until November 15, 2023. Ranking of applications will be performed once each year on the state level by the Kentucky Soil and Water Conservation Commission at the Kentucky Division of Conservation in Frankfort. Approval of applications is based on a statewide ranking criterion and the availability of funds. Cost share rates are a maximum of 75 percent of the actual installation cost of the practice not to exceed \$20,000 per year.

Practices eligible for cost share are agriculture and animal waste control facilities; animal waste utilization; vegetative filter strips; integrated crop management; pesticide containment; sinkhole protection; pasture and hay land forage quality; heavy use area protection; rotational grazing system establishment; water well protection; forest land and cropland erosion control systems; closure of agriculture waste impoundment; on-farm fallen animal composting; soil health management; precision nutrient management; strip intercropping system; livestock stream crossing and riparian area protection. Once approved, applicants will have 12 months to complete their new practice.

For more information stop by the Graves County Conservation District at:

USDA- Department of Agriculture Service Center
1000 Commonwealth Drive
Mayfield, KY 42066.

Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Phone: 270-247-9529 ext: 8118

Join Our Mailing List!



College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

We are updating our Graves County Agriculture & Natural Resources mailing list! Please scan the QR code or contact the office at 270-247-2334 to make sure you are on there!

