

Spencer County Agriculture & Horticulture Newsletter



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

Cooperative Extension Service
Spencer County
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March 2024

Like many of you, I appreciate this time of year as everything is just starting to grow again. As we get closer to the end of March, our trees are starting to attempt to bud out. Some of you may be mowing toward the end of the month.

It's nice to see things turning green again as we are starting another growing season. I hope you have a nice spring, which starts on March 19th. Also, don't forget that the time changes on March 10, so "spring forward" one hour before you go to bed on March 9th.

As always, feel free to call or email me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Bryce Roberts,
Spencer County Extension Agent for
Agriculture and Natural Resources

More Information

As always, if you need more information, feel free to **call me** at 477-2217.

You can also **email me** at broberts@uky.edu or you can **visit my website** to view archived newsletters and news articles. The web address is: www.spencerextension.com



Soil Sample Now

As we are now into winter, this is one of the best times to sample your fields, gardens, or lawns to see what type and how much fertilizer you need to make the soil as productive as possible. For each sample you want to submit, we need at least one pint (sandwich bag) of dry soil 4-8 inches below the soil surface. Please put your name and sample ID (north lawn, hayfield 2, etc.) on each bag.

Bring those in now so that you can get the results more quickly and in some cases go ahead and apply the fertilizer now so that the soil will be ready for your yard or crops.

This is a free service provided by the Spencer Co. Conservation District. Thanks to them for sponsoring the soil sampling program.

Our office is open normal business hours, but you have the option to drop off your samples anytime you like.

As you pull into our parking lot, please go to the right to the back of our building. You will then see our pavilion and on the pavilion, you will see a black tub with a yellow top to the right of the double doors. Inside the tub, you will find some paperwork that you will need to fill out so that we can properly test your soil. Place the paperwork and samples back into the tub.

I'll review the results and mail or email them to you in 2-3 weeks.

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Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

Winter Farmers Market

The Taylorsville Farmers Market will be holding some indoor markets during the winter months. They will be held on the first Saturday of each month (March 2). The market will be held at our office, located at 100 Oak Tree Way and will be open from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Wellness Day

“March Into Wellness” will be held at our office on Saturday, March 16, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. This program is in partnership with the North Central Health District.

Some of the free services and opportunities include:

- **Information Booths
- **Presentations
- **Door Prizes
- **Cancer Screening
- **Adult Vaccines
- **Biometric Screening
- **Blood Pressure Check
- **Mammograms—please call (502) 852-6318 to register for this.

Lunch will be provided and is sponsored by Humana Healthy Horizons.

Upcoming Meetings

I’ll be hosting some horticulture related programs over the next few weeks and hope you will be able to join me for them.

**Spring Lawn Maintenance—March 21, 6 p.m. Learn about what to do and what not to do during the spring for a healthy lawn all year long.

**Vegetable Gardening Basics—March 21, 7 p.m. Learn about some of the “basics” of a successful home garden.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Please call our office at 477-2217 to register or you can email me at broberts@uky.edu with your name and phone number and how many will be attending so that enough materials will be provided.

Spring Weather—Be Prepared

As March begins and winter starts to wind down, now is the time to start thinking about being prepared for what the unpredictable spring weather can throw at us. March is a transitional month where we need to be prepared for anything and everything. In recent years, we’ve seen snow and cold snaps, but we’ve also experienced flooding and tornadoes as well. March tends to represent the battle between winter ending and spring beginning. Eventually, as we move into April and May, signs of winter disappear and spring develops in full force.

Spring can bring beautiful weather, with warm temperatures and sunny skies - great to get the flowers blooming. But it can also bring violent, dangerous weather. Do you or your family know what to do if severe weather strikes where you are? Preparation can be key for everyone’s safety!

Always be weather aware! Make sure you know the weather risks of the day ahead of time. When severe thunderstorm, tornado, and flash flood warnings are issued, having multiple methods to receive these warnings and weather information is very important for you to be able to take the appropriate action. This could include a NOAA weather radio, a reverse call system, television/radio, or nearby sirens if you are outdoors. In addition, you should know what to do when these warnings are issued. Have a plan - and put that plan into action. Make sure you have a safety kit ready to go, as well as a point of contact who can make sure everyone is accounted for and safe.

A Severe Thunderstorm Warning means severe weather (damaging winds at least 60 mph and/or large hail of 1 inch or greater) has been reported by spotters or indicated by the National Weather Service’s radar. Take shelter in a substantial building, away from windows. If the severe thunderstorm warning states winds in excess of 80 mph, treat it like a tornado warning.

A Tornado Warning means a tornado has been spotted or indicated by radar. There is imminent danger to life and property. Take action now! Move to the basement or an underground cellar if possible. If an underground shelter is not available, move to an interior room (multiple walls between you and the outside of the house) on the lowest floor of a sturdy building. You should be sheltered well away from windows or any outside doors. The smaller the interior room the better (closet, bathroom, hallway).

This information is provided by Brandon Pelouin— National Weather Service Wilmington, OH.



Louisville Area Beef Cattle Association
Spring Beef Cattle Management
Meeting and Supper

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



Thursday, March 7, 5:30 p.m. Registration (Fee: FREE)
Spencer County Cooperative Extension Service Office
100 Oak Tree Way Taylorsville, KY 40071 (502) 477-2217



RSVP by Monday, March 4, 4 p.m., by calling 477-2217 so that we can accurately prepare for our sponsored meal.

NO REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER MARCH 4!

Program Begins with Supper at 6:00 p.m.

"Sustainable Strength: Harnessing Your Power for Cattle Production Success"

Cheryl Witt, Ph.D., RN, Project Director, Raising Hope KY

Sponsors Include:

Peoples Bank, Taylorsville

Louisville Area Beef Cattle Association

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Confetti Chicken Quesadillas

1 small green bell pepper, seeded and diced
1 small red bell pepper, seeded and diced
1 tablespoon hot pepper, minced (optional)

1 pound skinless, boneless chicken breast, diced
1 (1 ounce) packet fajita seasoning mix
1 tablespoon olive oil

10 (10 inch) whole-wheat tortillas
1 (8 ounce) package reduced fat cheddar cheese, shredded

Preheat the broiler and prepare baking sheet with non-stick spray. **Toss** the diced chicken with the fajita seasoning and place on the baking sheet. **Spread** chopped peppers on baking sheet. **Place** under the broiler and broil until the chicken pieces are thoroughly cooked and no longer pink in the center, about 10 minutes. **Brush** skillet with oil and heat to medium. **Place** one tortilla in skillet. **Layer** half of tortilla with approximately one-third cup chicken

and pepper mixture. **Sprinkle** with 3 tablespoons cheddar cheese. **Fold** over and flip tortilla to crisp other side. Repeat until all quesadillas have been prepared. **Cut** each quesadilla into wedges and serve with salsa, if desired.

Yield: 10 servings

Nutritional Analysis: 270 calories, 10 g fat, 3 g saturated fat, 40 mg cholesterol, 880 mg sodium, 2 g sugar, 23 g carbohydrate, 2 g fiber, 19 g protein



Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand.