

Spencer County Agriculture & Horticulture Newsletter

 Cooperative
Extension Service

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Spencer County
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August 2025

Welcome to August. As I write this, we're 49 days from Fall, but with the last couple of days, it certainly felt like fall.

Most of our crops are in pretty good shape and we've received moisture when we've needed it. I hope that continues until our crops are harvested.

Just a reminder that the Kentucky State Fair starts on August 14 and runs through the 24th so there's plenty of time to get to the KY Exposition Center and enjoy the sights and sounds of the fair.

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



Farmers Market Now Open

The Taylorsville/Spencer County Farmers Market is now open beginning at 8 a.m. until noon or so on Saturdays. Some of the vendors may stay past noon if there is a crowd. The market will be open every Saturday (rain or shine) until October 25. It is located at 751 Taylorsville Road next to Fresh Take Market.

There are several vendors selling a wide variety of products, including meats, cheeses, jams, jellies, honey, breads, goat milk soaps and lotions, candles, and other produce. Make sure you support our local producers...they are the ones that are growing what you're buying.

If you are interested in becoming a vendor (small producers are welcome), please contact me or stop by our office for an application. For more information on the market, feel free to contact Sandi Deutsch at 502-252-1400.



Cooperative Extension Service

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Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

Rinse and Return Program

Our office will once again be a drop off location for the Rinse and Return program. It will be held on **August 11 from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.** Please collect and hold onto your containers until then.

The Rinse and Return Program is a voluntary, cooperative program sponsored by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and the Agri-Business Association of Kentucky (ABAK). Other partners include the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, which helps coordinate the Program on a county level, Farm Bureau, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service and the local conservation districts, and the Ag Container Recycling Council.

Due to the materials previously held by these pesticide containers they cannot be recycled with your ordinary household plastics. This program allows for the proper recycling of these pesticide containers. This reduces the amount of material entering the landfill or being disposed of by other means. Some of the end products include drainage pipe, highway sign posts, underground utility conduit, and wire/cable spool flanges.



Pressure Rinsing

Remove cover from container. Empty the pesticide into the spray tank and let the container drain for 30 seconds.

Continue holding the container upside down over the sprayer tank opening so rinsate will run into the sprayer tank.

Insert the pressure-rinse nozzle by puncturing through the bottom of the pesticide container.

Rinse for length of time recommended by the manufacturer (generally 30 seconds or more).

Triple Rinsing

Remove cover from container. Empty the pesticide into the spray tank and let the container drain for 30 seconds. Fill the container 10% to 20% full of water or rinse solution.

Secure the cover on the container.

Swirl the container to rinse all inside surfaces.

Remove cover from the container. Add the rinsate from the container to sprayer tank and let drain for 30 seconds or more.

Repeat steps 2 through 5 two more times. Puncture container.

Soil Sample Now

This is a reminder that once your crops or gardens are finished for this year, it is a great time 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. During this time of the year, the lab is not as busy as it is in the spring, so we can get your results back to you usually a few days sooner than other times during the year.

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 (8 am until 4:30 pm), 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.

UK Beef Survey

The University of Kentucky Beef Specialists are inviting you to complete a short survey on beef production. You can scan the QR code or go to this website to complete it:
<http://bit.ly/452CEBJ>





Lightning Safety

By Derrick Snyder - National Weather Service Paducah, KY

While the risk for severe thunderstorms that produce tornadoes, large hail, and damaging winds is greatest during the spring across most of the country, the dangers of lightning can occur during all times of the year. Every year, hundreds of people are seriously injured from lightning strikes. The good news is that lightning deaths have trended downward in recent years thanks to greater preparedness and education. However, numerous people are still killed every year. Looking at the statistics for lightning fatalities, the majority of lightning deaths occurred while people were doing outdoor activities.



The deadliest activity when it comes to lightning strikes is fishing, followed by beach going, boating, camping, farming/ranching, riding bikes/motorcycles/ATVs, roofing, gathering outside, working construction, walking to a vehicle, yardwork, and playing soccer or golf. If you are caught outside during a thunderstorm, remember that there is *no* safe place outside from lightning. If a thunderstorm is occurring or nearby, seek shelter inside a sturdy enclosed structure. A hard-topped vehicle can also provide good shelter.

Keep these things in mind when it comes to lightning safety:

1. Your chances of being struck by lightning depend on how you react when storms are in the area.
2. Remember: "When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!" If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck by lightning!
3. The threat of lightning increases as a storm approaches, peaks when it is overhead, and gradually diminishes as it moves away.
4. Many people wait too long to get to a safe place and then go back outside too soon before the threat is over. Wait about 30 minutes after you hear the last rumble of thunder to return outside.



Fresh Green Bean Stir-fry

1½ pounds fresh green beans	1 tablespoon flour	1½ tablespoons fresh lemon juice
1 medium red bell pepper	1 teaspoon coarse black pepper	2 tablespoons canola oil
1 medium yellow bell pepper	1 tablespoon brown sugar, packed	2-3 fresh garlic cloves, diced
1 small yellow onion	3 tablespoons soy sauce	
½ cup sliced almonds		

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. **Wash** beans. **Trim** the ends off the green beans and cut into 1½ inch pieces. **Place** green beans in a medium saucepan and cover with water. **Bring** to a boil and cook for 3 minutes or until beans are tender crisp. **Drain** and pour beans into a bowl of ice water to cool. **Drain** and pat dry. **Core** peppers and cut into thin strips. **Peel** onion and **slice** into thin strips. **Spread** the sliced almonds on a baking sheet, bake with the rack in the top position at 400 degrees F until lightly browned, 3 to 5 minutes. **Mix** the flour, black pepper and brown sugar together in a small bowl; stir

in soy sauce and lemon juice until smooth. A tablespoon of cold water can be added if sauce is too thick. In a large skillet or wok, **add** the canola oil and **heat** to medium high. **Add** onion and stir-fry for 1 minute. **Add** garlic and peppers and stir-fry for 2 minutes. **Add** beans and stir-fry for an additional 2 minutes. **Add** sauce and toss/cook until sauce evenly coats the beans. **Remove** to serving plate and **sprinkle** with the sliced almonds.

Yield: 8, 1 cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 120 calories, 7 g fat, 0.5 g saturated fat, 440 mg sodium, 14 g carbohydrate, 4 g fiber, 6 g sugars, 4 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>