

Spencer County Agriculture & Horticulture Newsletter

 Cooperative
Extension Service

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Spencer County
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January 2025

Welcome to 2025! It seems just like a couple of weeks ago that I was welcoming you to 2024. Time certainly does fly by.

Now that we have turned the page on a new year, it's time to start thinking about our new production year, but we need to look back on 2024 and get our taxes prepared.

To help you out, we have some great recordkeeping books here at our office that you're more than welcome to stop in and pick one up. It is a great tool to help you keep good records throughout the year. I hope you have a great 2025.

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



Beginning Producer Session

We had to postpone our November Beginning Producer Session on Water Quality until **January 30 beginning at 6 p.m.** and it will be held at the Spencer Co. Extension Office.

Dr. Amanda Gumbert will discuss how to care for the water on your farm and the water that flows by your farm. We will talk about how to use soil and water conservation practices that protect your resources and your bottom line.

We do request that you RSVP as a light meal will be served. Please call our office at 477-2217 to pre-register go to <https://bit.ly/WaterQuality25> to register.

State Apiarist Office Hours

I received this message from Dr. Skidmore and thought I'd pass it along to you.

Starting in January, Dr. Amanda Skidmore – the Kentucky Department of Agriculture State Apiarist, will be hosting a monthly zoom meeting open to anyone that would like to participate. *This will be a way for her to communicate important beekeeping related information and an opportunity for you to ask her questions!* The first meeting will be Thursday, January 23, 2025 from 12pm EST/11am CT. If you would like to participate, please fill out the google form linked here or scan the QR code and she will add you to her email list where you will be able to sign up for the meetings! Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/hwpyX1giH1Wd2Gmv9>



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Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

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 them back to you in 2-3 weeks.

Beginning Beekeeper Survival 2025

Back for its fourth year, the Beginner Beekeeper Survival School packages the bare essentials you need to have a successful first year of beekeeping.

This joint program includes Spencer, Bullitt, Kentuckiana and Oldham bee clubs in the greater Louisville KY area. Attendees do not have to be members of any of the aforementioned clubs or counties.

This 16 hour program was created to meet a recurring need, to prepare beginners for their first year of beekeeping! By setting up a joint program, we are able to integrate and educate these beginners in an organized manner. We are limited to 50 seats by our venues, **ONLY REGISTER IF YOU WILL ATTEND PLEASE.**

Several of the dates have door fees. Those fees will be collected by the club at admission. Sessions 1, 2, and 4 have \$15/person rates. Please bring cash.

Session 1 with Spencer County Beekeepers Association, Saturday 2/22 9A-1P
@ Spencer Extension Office. 100 Oak Tree Way. Taylorsville KY 40071.
Introduction to Beekeeping, Basic Bee Biology, and Beekeeping Equipment.

Lead: Amanda McCutcheon, Spencer County Beekeepers Association President. \$15/ at the door.

Session 2 with Bullitt County Beekeepers Association, Sunday 3/2 1P-5P.
@ Bullitt Extension Office. 384 Halls LN. Shepherdsville KY 40165.

Hive Inspections, Annual Schedule, and Basic Management.

Lead: Leonard Davis, EAS Master Beekeeper, President BCBA. \$15/ at the door.

Session 3 with Kentuckiana Beekeepers Association (Jefferson), Saturday 3/8?, 9:30A-1P.
@ TBD

Products of the Hive and Disease.

Lead: Lara Augustine, UoFF Certified Master Beekeeper, Past President KBA.

Session 4 with Oldham County Beekeepers Association, Saturday 3/15, 9A-1P.
@ TBD

Pests, Varroa, Beekeeper Interventions, and Course Conclusion.

Lead: TBD. \$15/ at the door.

Please go to

<https://bit.ly/2025BeekeeperSurvival>

to register.



Nuisance Weed Spraying Program

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture is once again sponsoring the Nuisance Weed Spraying program. The department will provide the sprayer and enough chemical for the treatment of 10 acres of agricultural land or 100 gallons of spot spraying mix to be used on agricultural land. The department's representative will demonstrate proper mixing and application techniques. A number of nuisance weeds can be treated under this program depending on the needs of the participant. This program is limited to broadleaf weeds. **If you have participated in the last 3 years, you are not eligible this year.**

Broadcast Spraying demonstration plots consist of:

- **10 acres of agricultural land will be treated with chemical provided by the department
- **Application is performed with a two-wheeled trailer type sprayer equipped with boomless nozzles
- **If additional chemical is provided by the participant, an additional 10 acres can be treated

Spot Spraying demonstration plots consist of:

- **100 gallons of broadleaf chemical mix which is applied until sprayer is empty
- **Application is performed with a two-wheeled trailer type sprayer equipped with a handheld spray wand used by the tractor operator

For each demonstration:

- **The participant must provide water source
- **The participant must provide tractor and operator
- **All chemical products must be labeled and the product label will be strictly followed
- **A maximum of 7 participants per county

This program is designed to target weeds that have a negative impact on the participant's agricultural production. There will be an annual online application period to participate in this program. Applications can be completed **starting February 1.** To submit an application, please go to <https://www.kyagr.com/consumer/nuisance-weed-spraying-program-application.aspx>

PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS SUBJECT TO RENEWAL BY THE KDA.

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Baked Broccoli Frittata

1 cup broccoli florets
½ cup tomato, diced
1 small red bell pepper,
sliced
2 green onions, sliced
into 1 inch pieces

1 tablespoon olive oil
6 whole eggs
¼ cup Dijon mustard
2 tablespoons water
¼ cup 2% milk
¼ teaspoon salt

¼ teaspoon black
pepper
½ teaspoon Italian
seasoning
1 cup low fat mozzarella
cheese, divided

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. **Place** broccoli florets, diced tomato, bell pepper and green onions in a 9 x 13 inch baking dish. **Spoon** olive oil evenly over vegetables. **Roast** the vegetables in the oven until crisp-tender, approximately 10 minutes. In a bowl, **combine** eggs, Dijon mustard, water, milk, salt, black pepper and Italian seasoning. **Whisk** mixture until frothy. **Stir** in $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of shredded low fat mozzarella cheese. **Pour** the egg

mixture over the roasted vegetables. **Stir** gently with a fork to combine. **Sprinkle** the remaining $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of mozzarella cheese over the top. **Return** to oven and **bake** 20-25 minutes or until set and cheese is browned on top. **Serve** immediately.

Yield: 8 servings.

Nutritional Analysis: 130 calories, 8 g fat, 3 g saturated fat, 170 mg cholesterol, 400 mg sodium, 5 g carbohydrate, 1 g fiber, 2 g sugar, 9 g protein.



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