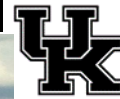


# Montgomery County Extension



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

### Cooperative Extension Service

Montgomery County  
106 East Locust Street  
Mt Sterling KY 40353-1404  
(859) 498-8741, 8742  
Fax: (859) 498-8712  
montgomery.ca.uky.edu  
ghamilto@uky.edu

## April/May, 2023

**Greetings Farmers:**

# APRIL/MAY 2023

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## MONEY FOR FARM IMPROVEMENTS



### Eligible Investment Areas:

- Agricultural Diversification*
- AgTech & Leadership Development*
- Large Animal - Small Animal*
- Farm Infrastructure*
- Fencing & On-Farm Water*
- Forage & Grain Improvement*
- Innovative Ag. Systems*
- On-Farm Energy*
- Poultry & Other Fowl*
- Value Added & Marketing*

**Administered by**  
Montgomery Co Conservation  
District

509 Willin Way, Suite #2  
Mt. Sterling, KY 40353  
(859) 498-5487 ext 2021

## COUNTY AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CAIP)

Applications are available for Montgomery County's CAIP to assist farmers in making important farm investments.

### Application Period:

**April 10<sup>th</sup> through May 10, 2023**

*No applications will be accepted before April 10 or after May 10<sup>th</sup> 4:00 p.m.*

### Application Availability:

Montgomery Co. Conservation District  
Monday – Thursday (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

### For More Information:

Contact Nancy Montgomery at (859) 498-5487 ext 2021 or email [mccdky@gmail.com](mailto:mccdky@gmail.com)

*All applications are scored, based on the scoring criteria set by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.*



*Hello Spring*

**A CAIP Informational Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 20th at 5:30 pm in the Montgomery County Education Center at 104 E. Locust Street, Mt Sterling. Come get your questions answered.**

Sincerely,

Gary Hamilton,  
Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent  
Montgomery County  
[ghamilto@uky.edu](mailto:ghamilto@uky.edu)



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.



**Cattlemen's Ribeye  
Drive Thru –  
Friday, April 21, 2023  
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
Montgomery County Extension  
Annex Garage**

(Enter and Exit at 153 South Maysville Street, Mt. Sterling. Next to the Farmers Market Pavilion – Follow the Signs)

Are you craving a Cattlemen's Ribeye Sandwich? If so the Montgomery County Cattlemen's Association is taking orders to be picked up on Friday, April 21st from 11AM to 1PM.

**You may place an order for a  
Ribeye Steak Sandwich, Chips & an Ale-8 or Water  
by calling 859-498-8733**

When you call just:

1. Leave Your Name,
2. Leave the Number of Orders
3. & the Approximate Time you will pick up your order

**ORDERS WILL BE BROUGHT TO YOUR CAR  
WHEN YOU DRIVE UP.**

Don't miss out on this chance to get a  
Montgomery County Cattlemen's Association Ribeye Sandwich!!!!

**The cost  
per order  
is  
\$10.00  
Cash  
or  
Card  
accepted.**

**University of Kentucky Artificial Insemination & Pregnancy Diagnosis School April 25 and 26**

On April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, the Woodford County Research Farm will be hosting the UK AI and Pregnancy Diagnosis school. Dr. Les Anderson and partners from Select Sires Midamerica will be leading instruction on proper AI procedure as well as pregnancy diagnosis. Class will begin at 9 am each day and end at 4 pm. Lunch will be provided. The cost of AI School will be \$400 per person, which includes lunch.

Those who are interested can register and pay online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/605029729207> . If attendees would like to pay with check, they can contact Tyler Purvis at [Ta-pu228@uky.edu](mailto:Tapu228@uky.edu) or (859) 257-7512 to register, then pay on site.

## Forage Timely Tips: April

- Make sure hay equipment is ready for high quality May harvests.
- Graze cover crops using temporary fencing.
- As pasture growth begins, rotate through pastures quickly to keep up with the fast growth of spring.
- Creep-graze calves and lambs, allowing them access to highest-quality pasture.
- Finish re-seeding winter feeding sites where soil disturbance and sod damage occurred.
- As pasture growth exceeds the needs of the livestock, remove some fields from the rotation and allow growth to accumulate for hay or haylage.
- Determine need for supplemental warm season forages such as pearl millet or sudan-grass.
- Flash graze pastures newly seeded with clovers to manage competition.

## Forage Timely Tips: May

- ◆ Graze cover crops using temporary fencing.
- ◆ As pasture growth begins, rotate through pastures quickly to keep up with the fast growth of spring.
- ◆ Creep-graze calves and lambs, allowing them access to highest-quality pasture.
- ◆ As pasture growth exceeds the needs of the livestock, remove some fields from the rotation and allow growth to accumulate for hay or haylage.
- ◆ Determine need for supplemental warm season forages such as pearl millet or sudan-grass.
- ◆ Flash graze pastures newly seeded with clovers to manage competition.

## Soil Sampling—Free to Montgomery County Residents

Soil tests are the only way to ensure your ground has the nutrients it needs for the upcoming growing season, and with the current high input costs, it could help you save money. We are encouraging producers to submit these samples to us as early as possible this year to ensure your results are back before you need to make your first spring application.



Depending on what you plan to produce, you will need to take different kinds of soil samples. Production agriculture fields, lawns, gardens, fruit trees and ornamentals all have unique fertility and soil pH requirements. Collect at least 10 soil cores in small areas. Larger fields may need at least 20 soil cores. Soil samples will also have different depths depending on the tillage system you use.

Samples from tilled areas, gardens, ornamentals and fruit trees, should be taken at least 6 to 8 inches deep. Collect soil samples about 4 inches deep in no-till fields and home lawns.

The Extension Office have sample bags and soil probes that you can use. Submit soil samples to UK through your local extension office. Agents will send the samples to UK for testing and can help you interpret the results. More information on soil samples is available at the Montgomery office of the UK Cooperative Extension Service. Your Montgomery County Extension District Board will cover the costs of soil tests for Montgomery County Residents.

## 12-Point Checklist to Ensure Your Planter is Ready for the Field

With the 2023 planting season officially underway, we will start seeing more row-crop planters rolling in the fields in next few weeks. For growers to have a successful and stress-free planting season, it is important to make sure that planters are well maintained and ready to go before heading to the field. When it comes to planting, preparation is the key as any breakdowns in the field due to planter malfunction or planting mistakes can cost growers both valuable time and money. We all know that timely and uniform stand establishment is important to maximize yield potential early in the season and one of the main factors that can affect crop stand is planter setup and operation as it influences where and how uniformly seeds are placed in the soil. Spending time on planter setup and preparation to get it field ready goes long way for growers as it not only helps minimize downtime in the field but a successful crop stand also sets the stage for rest of the season.



Before heading to the field, here is a 12-point checklist for growers to consider to make sure that your planter is well maintained and dialed in for peak performance during planting.

1. **Parallel Linkages** – Stand behind the row unit and wiggle it up and down and left and right to check for any play in the parallel arms, and adjust or replace linkages and bushings to make sure row units are secured nice and tight on the planter.
2. **Drive System** – Check all chains, idlers, sprockets and bushings, and replace any parts that are too worn. Make sure all drive chains are snug and do not have any unnecessary jump or vibration when operating. Lubricate all chains and sprockets before begin planting and regularly in the season. Additionally, check all drive system parts including flex drives, hydraulic drives and lines, and electrical drive systems including connectors and wires.
3. **Tire Pressure** – Check and maintain proper air pressure in the tires as recommended by the manufacturer based on the weight of the planter and planting conditions in the field. Independent of drive system, improper tire pressure can have negative effects on seed placement due to improper levelling of the planter toolbar.
4. **Double Disc Openers** – Check that the double disc openers are still sharp and within the diameter tolerance outlined by the manufacturer. Replace if they are dull or worn more than half an inch of their original diameter. Perform a quick check using a business card to ensure adequate contact (1.75 to 2 inches) between the disc openers at the 4 o'clock position.
5. **Gauge Wheels** – Inspect the gauge wheels for any cracks or wear. Adjust the gauge wheels so that they run tight against the disc openers but just enough so they can easily be turned by hand with slight pressure. Gauge wheels should also move freely up and down without sticking in any position.
6. **Row Cleaners** – Check row-cleaners for any wear and replace any bearings if they are not turning freely. Floating type row cleaners should also travel up and down to effectively clear soil/crop residue out of the way.
7. **Seed Meters** – Inspect each seed meter thoroughly for any wear or damaged parts including vacuum seals, brushes, scrapers, and doubles eliminator. Ensure that the correct crop kit (for newer meters) is installed in the meter. If not utilizing a seed monitor (capable of by-row feedback) during planting, it is also recommended to run the seed meters on a test stand to check performance and make any necessary adjustments.
8. **Seed Tube** – Check seed tubes for any cracks and wear at the bottom. Seed tubes should also be cleaned properly to clear any debris or obstructions (seed, cobweb, etc.). Make sure that the seed sensor is secured properly to the tube and working as intended.

9. **Closing Wheels** – Check that closing wheels are centered directly over the center of the row. Inspect closing wheels for any wear or play in the arms and replace parts or adjust as needed.
10. **Vacuum** – Inspect the whole vacuum system including hydraulic motor, fan and hoses for any wear, leaks or loose fittings. Check that vacuum hoses are attached properly to the manifold and to the seed meters on each row unit.
11. **Downforce** – For mechanical (spring type) systems, check all the components thoroughly and make sure different downforce adjustments can be made easily. For pneumatic or hydraulic systems, inspect all air or hydraulic connections carefully and perform a static diagnostic test to verify that the downforce system is functioning properly. This includes the compressor for air systems, in some cases it stays in the cab and can be neglected.
12. **Technology** – Check that the GPS receiver and planter display have the most recent firmware upgrades installed and are functioning properly. Check if the GPS correction subscription services and any other display unlocks for advanced planting features are activated and paid for rest of the season. Perform a thorough inspection of all technology components including sensors, harnesses, ECU's and connections to ensure everything is connected and functioning properly. Also, make sure to back up planting data from the previous season on a computer or an external storage device before start recording this year's data.

Keep in mind that once in the field, growers should get out of the tractor and check seed depth, placement and seed-to-soil contact during the first pass, and adjust planter settings as needed to optimize planter performance within each field. Also, check all of these parameters anytime field conditions change drastically, and especially when changing crops. Source: Simer Virk and Wes Porter.

CAIP Informational Meeting Notice



**MONEY FOR FARM IMPROVEMENTS**  
**KADF**  
 KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

**Eligible Investment Areas:**  
 Agricultural Diversification  
 AgTech & Leadership Development  
 Large Animal - Small Animal  
 Farm Infrastructure  
 Fencing & On-Farm Water  
 Forage & Grain Improvement  
 Innovative Ag. Systems  
 On-Farm Energy  
 Poultry & Other Fowl  
 Value Added & Marketing

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CAIP)

**Join us for a CAIP Informational Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the**  
**Montgomery County Extension Education Center**

**Applications will be available along with answers to your questions regarding this local program.**

**For More Information:**  
**Contact Montgomery Co Conservation District at**  
**(859) 498-5487 Ext 2021 or email**  
**mccdky@gmail.com**

**Civil Rights Act-Compliant statement** - The College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is an Equal Opportunity Organization with respect to education and employment and authorization to provide research, education information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function without regard to economic or social status and will not discriminate on the bases of race, color, ethnic 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. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and other related matter should be directed to Equal Opportunity Office, College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, University of Kentucky, Room S-105, Agriculture Science Building, North Lexington, Kentucky 40546, the UK Office of Institutional Equity and Equal Opportunity, 13 Main Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0032 or US Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.

# FARM EQUIPMENT FOR RENT for MONTGOMERY COUNTY RESIDENTS

## SPRAYER

Owner: Montgomery County Cattlemen Association  
Location: 608 Airport Road, Mt Sterling KY 40353  
Description: 300 gallon boomless sprayer  
Rental Fee: \$25 per day  
Hookup Fee: \$20  
Deposit: None



## NO TILL DRILL

Owner: Montgomery County Cattlemen; Montgomery County Extension Service; Montgomery Co. Conservation District  
Location: 608 Airport Road, Mt Sterling KY 40353  
Description: 10 Foot Hay Buster 107 C No Till Drill  
Rental Fee: \$80 a day or \$8 per acre – minimum of \$80 per day  
Hookup Fee: \$30  
Deposit: **\$250 – refundable only if clean when returned**



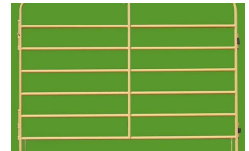
## BALE WRAPPER

Owner: Montgomery County Cattlemen Association  
Location: 608 Airport Road, Mt Sterling KY 40353  
Description: Anderson Bale Wrapper  
Rental Fee: \$100 a day  
Hookup Fee: \$50  
Deposit: \$250—Fully Refundable when returned damage free



## CATTLE HANDLING FACILITIES

Owner: Montgomery County Cattlemen Association  
Location: 608 Airport Road, Mt Sterling KY 40353  
Description: **Corral Panels**  
Rental Fee: \$20 per day  
Hookup Fee: \$20  
Deposit: None



Owner: Montgomery County Cattlemen Association  
Location: 608 Airport Road, Mt Sterling KY 40353  
Description: **Townsend Cattle Scales**  
Rental Fee: \$20 per day  
Hookup Fee: \$20  
Deposit: None

Owner: Montgomery County Cattlemen Association  
Location: 608 Airport Road, Mt Sterling KY 40353  
Description: **Townsend Squeeze Chute**  
Rental Fee: \$20 per day  
Hookup Fee: \$20  
Deposit: None



**Contact Daniel Spencer at 859-585-0697 or  
Byron Craycraft at 859-274-6796 for rental  
of any of the pieces of equipment.**



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Cooperative Extension Service  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

## REGIONAL FARMER'S MARKET MEETING

Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

Morehead State University Farm Classroom  
(Inside Horse Arena)

25 MSU Farm Drive—Morehead, KY 40351

Registration @ 5:30 PM \*\* Program @ 6:00 PM

### Topics & Activities:

- \*Updates from KY Department of Agriculture
- \*Customer Retention and Engagement
- \*Accepting More Than Just Cash
- \*Display Booths from Local Businesses and Vendors
- \*Preorder KY Proud Items from KDA and pick them up at the meeting to save on shipping.

Preregister by April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Scan the QR code or call  
your local Extension Office.

606-474-6686



Cooperative Extension Service  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Family and Consumer Sciences  
4-H Youth Development  
Community and Economic Development  
LEB000709, KY 40404



Financial position of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service as of 6/30/2018. Information presented in this report is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer of insurance, annuities, mutual funds, or other securities. For more information, visit [www.uk.edu](http://www.uk.edu) or contact your local Extension Office. © 2018 University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40546.

## SO YOU WANT TO ... MAKE BBQ!

MarketReady™



### DETAILS: VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

April 27th from 12:00-1:00 PM ET

Registration for this event can be found on the MarketReady website. Click [here](#).

Please join us on April 27th for a virtual office hour discussing BBQ! The University of Kentucky's Food Systems Innovation Center is hosting a virtual Q&A session over BBQ production and processing in Kentucky. We want to hear from you, the producer, on any questions or comments you may have. Hosted by Dr. Gregg Rentfrow!



 College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
Food Systems Innovation Center

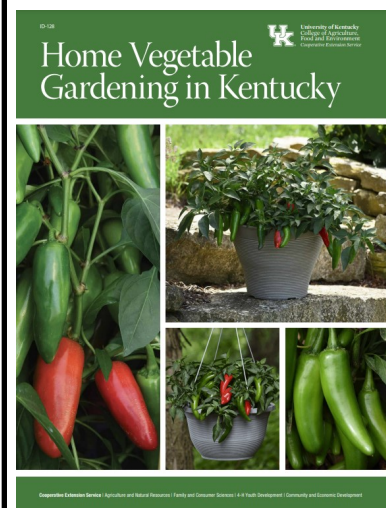
[HTTPS://MARKETREADY.UKY.EDU/](https://marketready.uky.edu/)

## William Reffitt Named 2022 Montgomery County Beef Producer of the Year

At the February meeting of the Montgomery County Cattlemen's Association, William Reffitt was awarded as the 2022 Montgomery County Beef Producer of the Year. William was presented with a plaque and jacket. Pictured L to R: Committee Member, Dwain Ginter, Hazel Reffitt, William Reffitt and Past President, Alice Ward.



## Home Vegetable Gardening Books Available at the Extension Office.



## One Pot Tortellini Dinner

**Servings: 8**

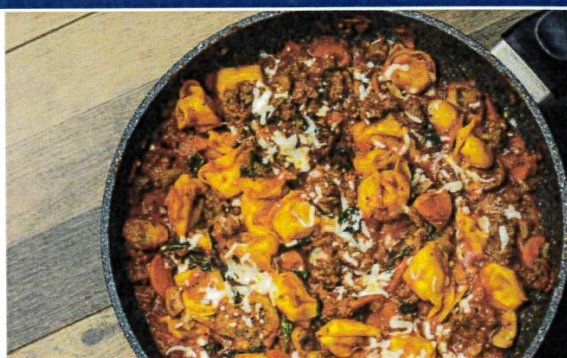
**Serving Size: 1 cup**

### Directions:

1. Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds.
2. Gently scrub the onion and carrot with a clean vegetable brush under cool running water before preparing them. Rinse the mushrooms under cold running water, being sure to remove any dirt; pat dry.
3. Heat a large nonstick pot or skillet over medium heat and add ground beef, onions, and carrots. Cook until ground beef is browned and has reached an internal temperature of 160 degrees F, using a food thermometer.
4. Drain fat from ground beef mixture. Add garlic, oregano, and Italian seasoning; stir until combined.
5. Add the tomato sauce, mushrooms, and spinach. Stir until mixture comes to a boil.
6. Cover with lid and simmer on low for 10 minutes. Remove lid and gently stir in frozen tortellini. Cover and cook tortellini following package directions (usually 2 to 5 minutes).
7. Top with mozzarella cheese and allow to melt before serving.
8. Store leftovers in the refrigerator within 2 hours.

**340 calories; 10g total fat; 5g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 65mg cholesterol; 400mg sodium; 36g total carbohydrate; 3g dietary fiber; 8g total sugars; 0g added sugars; 25g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 20% Daily Value of calcium; 30% Daily Value of iron; 6% Daily Value of potassium.**

Source: 2022 KYNEP Food and Nutrition Calendar : East Region (4, 6)  
Nutrition Education Program



## INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 medium carrot, chopped
- 3 tablespoons minced garlic
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 2 (15-ounce) cans no-salt-added tomato sauce
- 1 (8-ounce) package fresh sliced mushrooms
- 4 cups fresh prewashed spinach (remove stems and tear large leaves into pieces)
- 1 (19-ounce) package frozen cheese tortellini
- 1 cup low-moisture, part-skim shredded mozzarella cheese