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Lyon County

K-State Research and Extension News

*Knowledge
for Life*

June & July 2017

Lyon County Extension Office

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It's Your Chance to Serve!

If you are interested in serving or becoming more involved with Extension work, please consider serving on the Lyon County Extension Council.

The Council is made of 24 members with six each serving on one of the four Program Development Committees (PDC's): Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H Youth Development, and Community Development. The Program Development Committees provide guidance for Extension programming for the county.

In Lyon County, the Extension Council is elected in an at-large election. Extension Council members are elected to a 2-year term and may be re-elected once (total of four consecutive years) before they must sit out for a year. Twelve Extension Council members are elected or re-elected annually and represent one of the four Extension programming areas.

All citizens of voting age are eligible to be candidates and vote in the at-large elections. The public annual election meeting is held not earlier than September 1, but not later than ten days before the annual meeting of the council.

Please contact us by Friday, September 1, 2017 to let us know if you are interested in having your name on the ballot!

The 2017 Lyon County Extension Council Elections will be:

October 11, 2017

7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

At the Lyon County Extension Office

2632 W Hwy 50, Emporia



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Research and Extension

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KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION AND COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

The Clover Connection



Congratulations Seniors!



Congrats to the 17 high school seniors in the Lyon County 4-H program. We wish them all the best of luck in their futures!

They are: Frankie Davis, Jazmine Klumpe, Jessica Klumpe, Joel Miller, Juli Laws, Kohl Prose, Busy Beavers; Paul-Michael Johnson, Chamness; Blair Meyer and Dakota Orender, Cloverleaf; Kaylie Coble, Kylee Smith, Happy Harvesters; Casey Wells, Logan Avenue; Simon Hanson, Model Boosters; Brianna Becker and Luke Ikerd, Rinker; Shelby Baker-McElfresh and Trey Preisner, Sunflower.

2017 Lyon County Fair Pre-entries

Fair pre-entries will again be available through an online process. The Lyon County Fair Board purchased an online fair management program where 4-H families will direct enter the projects they wish to exhibit at the 2017 fair. Behind the scenes work is still in progress, but be prepared to make pre-entries online by July 1. More information will be posted at www.lyon.ksu.edu under the 4-H Youth Development tab. Remember there may be special entry forms due to details needed for pre-entry (like fees and specific breed information) of Rabbit, Poultry and Rodeo, so please watch for more information. With family tagging, you will not have to pre-enter the tag number with the livestock that a specific 4-Her will bring until you go across the scales at the fair with the animal, but we will still need to know the number of animals you are bringing per kid, per family. You will have assigned livestock housing by club and family this year. Livestock insurance will still need to be paid for at the Extension Office by July 1. Shooting sports does not require pre-entry for the fair as the ribbon shots will have already been completed. Watch the 4-H tab on the Extension website for pre-entry assistance and for more information.

Keep in mind that there is no way to be inclusive when trying to highlight fair changes. Read over your classes carefully when you receive your fair book. The fair book should be available online the first part of June at www.lyon.ksu.edu.

4-H Day Camp

The Lyon County 4-H Ambassadors are hosting a 4-H Day Camp on Friday, June 16 at the Anderson Building from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. All youth between the ages of 7 and 11 are encouraged to attend. Day camp will highlight 4-H projects through many fun activities. The cost for the event is \$10 per person. The fee includes lunch, supplies and snacks. Payment will be due the day of the camp. Everyone must pre-register by June 9 by calling the Extension Office.

State Program Fee to Begin Next 4-H Year

4-Hers across the state received an email from the Kansas 4-H Office via the 4-H Online system about a state program fee. Lyon County Clubs were also informed of the fee and resources were shared to help answer questions at the May 1 4-H Council meeting.

The full letter was sent to your family email address. A highlight of the information includes:

“Beginning October 2, 2017, an annual K-State Research and Extension 4-H program fee of \$15 per member will be collected. Funds generated will strengthen our program priorities of volunteer development, project support and program enhancement. We understand you may have questions about the process, and we encourage you to read *“Investing in the Future of Kansas 4-H: a Guide to the 4-H Program Fee.”* (Visit <http://tinyurl.com/n2qzsg> to view this document.) We feel this guide will be helpful in answering many of your questions.

Our #1 goal is for Kansas 4-H to continue to enrich the lives of its youth members, families and adult volunteers. We want the implementation of the program fee to be as easy and smooth as possible. Questions about the Kansas 4-H Program Fee can be directed to the Department of 4-H Youth Development at Kansas State University at (785)532-5800.”

Gary Fuller Spring Classic a Success

Congratulations to all the Lyon County 4-H exhibitors who participated in the 2017 Gary Fuller Spring Classic. We had 257 4-Hers show a total of 448 sheep, goats, cattle and pigs during the weekend event. Please be sure to thank our local sponsors who helped make this show a success.

Allen Meat Processing
Bennett Dental Group
Bluestem Farm & Ranch Supply
Bunge North America
Brian & Jill Creager
Davis Farms Trucking
East Emporia Vet Clinic
Farm Bureau Financial Services – Brian Filinger
Frontier Farm Credit
Fuller Hay
Gary Fuller Memorial
Dan & Susan Johnson
Jerry & Sharon Karr
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Larry & Sylvia Miller
Murphy Agri LLC
Navrat's Office Products
PrairieLand Partners John Deere
Producers Coop of Girard
Schellhamer Builders
Wingert Farms
Roland Webb
Williams Automotive

2017 Fair Notes

The official fair dates are Aug. 3-12. The Friends of 4-H Picnic will kick off 4-H related activities on July 27. You may find a fair schedule online at www.lyon.ksu.edu. The Anderson Building will be closed for the final time on Wednesday, Aug. 9 at 9:30 p.m. The projects will be released from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 10.

There will be a meat goat and sheep health inspection at the 2017 Lyon County Fair. The inspection will take place prior to your animals going across the scale, so it's important to check them prior to bringing them to the fairgrounds. All livestock, including sheep and meat goats, are expected to be in good health and disease free to enter upon the fairgrounds. If in doubt, check with your veterinarian prior to bringing your animal(s) to the fairgrounds. All animals are subject to examination by officials of the Lyon County Fair. Any animal appearing diseased, emaciated or extremely unthrifty will not be accepted.

Clean Up Your Livestock Stalls at the Fair

No matter what specie(s) a 4-Her exhibits at the Lyon County Fair, that 4-Her and his or her family is responsible for cleaning up the stall(s) after the premium sale and release time. If you do not clean up after your livestock, the fair board may withhold your premium money for your livestock.

Southeast Area Contests

June 29 – SE Area Livestock Contest

The area livestock judging contest will be hosted Thursday, June 29 in Yates Center. The contest consists of a skillathon, livestock judging and a meats contest. It's a great opportunity for those who are involved in livestock projects to broaden their knowledge and have fun competing with others who share this interest. Registration is \$10 per person and includes all three contests and lunch (hamburger, chips, brownie and pop or tea). The contest is scheduled to be completed by 2 p.m. Please call the Extension Office to indicate your interest.



June 20 – SE Area Horticulture, Crops, Photography and Favorite Foods Contest

A great opportunity to participate in many contests hosted right here in Emporia. Cost is \$4 per person per contest. New this year, 4-H participants in the area contest will earn a free pass for the afternoon to Jones Aquatic Center. I want to encourage a big turnout of Lyon County 4-Hers to help welcome our guests from across the area and to enjoy the afternoon of swimming with them.

District Horse Show

The East Central Kansas District Horse Show is scheduled for July 11 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Lawrence. The show begins at 9:00 a.m. and includes the counties of Anderson, Coffey, Douglas, Franklin, Johnson, Linn, Lyon, Miami and Osage. Pre-entries must be postmarked by June 15, and the entry form can be picked up at the Extension Office or downloaded online at www.lyon.ksu.edu. You must be 9 as of Jan. 1, 2017 to participate and completed level testing required in your age division.

KJLS and KSF Information

June 15 – Livestock nominations for the Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show are due.

DNA and official 4-H ear tag numbers due for: Wether Dam Ewes and Commercial Ewes, Commercial Breeding Heifers, Market Lambs, Market Hogs, Commercial Gilts, and Meat Goats. Be sure to check the requirements online at www.youthlivestock.ksu.edu under the 2017 Nomination Update. DNA envelopes and nomination forms are available at the Extension Office. **Remember, a nomination is not an entry for the show.**

Friends of 4-H Picnic

PICNIC



The Friends of 4-H Picnic will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 27 in the Anderson Building. 4-H families are asked to bring: 1 vegetable/casserole dish, 1 salad, AND 1 dessert. Meat will be provided. The 4-H Council will provide tea, plates, and silverware. Please bring your food to the Anderson Building by 6:00 p.m. so serving can begin at 6:30 p.m.

Club assignments are as follows:

Picnic Set-up (Wednesday, July 26 at 6:00 p.m.):

Riverside

Decorations: *Sunflower*

Arrange/Serve Food: *Happy Harvesters*

Drinks: *Busy Beavers*

Trash: *Chamness*

Table/Chair Clean-up: *Cloverleaf, Logan Avenue, Model Boosters, Rinker*

Floor Sweeping: *Reading*

Fair Work Assignments

The club assignments for pre- and post-fair clean-up are as follows:

-Wednesday, July 26 – 6 p.m. Diner Clean up – *Happy Harvesters*

-Saturday, July 29 – 7:30 a.m. – Set up Anderson Building for judging – *Rinker, Riverside*

-Monday, July 31 – 6 p.m. – Set up Anderson Building – *Busy Beavers and all 4-H Superintendents*

-Monday, July 31 – 6 p.m. – Pick up trash on grounds – *Chamness, Sunflower, Cloverleaf, Model Boosters*

-Tuesday, August 8 – 12:00 p.m. (noon) - Show arena pre-sale cleanup – *Logan Avenue* - Immediately following the sale – show arena cleanup – *Reading*

-Thursday, August 10 – 7:30 a.m. *all 4-H superintendents* - Release exhibits and cleanup Anderson Building

-Monday, August 14 - fair grounds clean up – *all clubs* - hamburger, chips and pop provided by the Fair Board.

2017 Kansas State Fair

The 2017 Kansas State Fair is September 8-17. In order to exhibit at the Kansas State Fair, 4-Hers must have turned 9 years old by Jan. 1, 2017. Livestock entries must have met nomination and entry deadlines. For all other projects, only purple ribbon winners are eligible to compete at the Kansas State Fair, with the exception of Visual Arts. Be sure to read the state fair guidelines as you may not be able to enter all items that received purple ribbons as some State Fair classes limit the number of items from each 4-Her. In the Visual Arts Division, the judges will select six exhibits for the State Fair. Even though Visual Arts exhibits are selected, they must still pre-enter. Visual Arts are for display and ribbon only, no premium money is awarded.

All State Fair pre-entries are due by 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 10. The pre-entry forms and a copy of the State Fair book will be available at the Fair Office during the fair. Pre-entries will not be accepted at the Extension Office.

4-H Council

4-H Council will meet June 5, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be held in the meeting room at the Extension Office. The July Council meeting will be held at the Extension Office on Wednesday July 5, at 7:00 p.m. (Please note date change due to 4th of July Holiday.)

Lyon County Open Youth Rodeo/Horse Show

The 2017 Lyon County Open Youth Rodeo will be held on Saturday, June 10 at 4:00 p.m. Entry forms are available at the Extension Office. The Lyon County Open Horse Show will be held on Sunday, June 11 with registration beginning at 9:00 a.m. Information is available at the Extension Office.

Fair Ticket Sales

Fair tickets will be handed out on June 22. Club Leaders are encouraged to contact the Extension Office to set up a time to meet with a fair board representative to pick up club tickets on June 22. Money and excess tickets will be due back in the Fair Office, Thursday, August 3 (schedule will be determined at the time of ticket distribution).

2017 LYON COUNTY FAIR 4-H SCHEDULE

Thursday, July 27

6:30 p.m. Friends of 4-H Picnic – Anderson Building

Friday, July 28

6:00 p.m. Dog Show – Anderson Building

Saturday, July 29

8:00 a.m. Clothing Construction & Construction Modeling, Boys & Girls Buymanship – Anderson Building

1:30 p.m. Photography, Home Environment, Rocketry, Forestry, Entomology, Reading, Geology, Leadership, Other Projects, Electrical & Fiber Arts Judging – Anderson Building

6:30 p.m. Public Fashion Revue – Anderson Building

Sunday, July 30

8:00 a.m. Horse Show – Arena

11:00 a.m. Hand Pet/Cat Show – Anderson Building

Thursday, August 3

4:00-5:00 p.m. Exhibit entry time for projects not conferenced judged or previously judged

5:30 p.m. Visual Arts, Foods, Crops, Horticulture, Floriculture, Metals, Woodworking, Reading & Banners – Anderson Building

Friday, August 4

(All animal entries in place by 6:30 p.m.)

4:00-6:00 p.m. Swine weigh-in

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Sheep Weigh-in/ Meat Goat Weigh-in

7:00 p.m. Shooting Sports Awards Presentation – Show Barn Arena

Saturday, August 5

7:00-8:00 a.m. Beef Weigh-in

8:30 a.m. Meat Goat Show

6:00 p.m. Sheep Show

Sunday, August 6

8:00 a.m. Swine Show

9:00 a.m. Poultry Show

TBA Cloverbuds Presentation

5:00 p.m. Kid's Pedal Tractor Pull

7:15 p.m. Pee-Wee Showmanship

Monday, August 7

8:00 a.m. Rabbit Show

8:30 a.m. Beef Show

6:00 p.m. Bucket Calf Show

Tuesday, August 8

8:00 a.m. Round Robin

Following Round Robin - Animal exhibits released except those in the Livestock Sale

6:00 p.m. Premium Sale – Lyon County Fair Grounds – Show Arena

Wednesday, August 9

6:00 p.m. 4-H Rodeo – Grandstands

Thursday, August 10

7:30-9:00 a.m. All exhibits released from the Anderson Building

9:30 p.m. 4-H Dairy Show – Show Barn

9:00 a.m. State Fair entries due – Fair Office



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Agriculture and Natural Resources

June-July 2017

Field Crop Weed and Insect Control

The month of April and early May have presented some challenges for the 2017 corn and soybean crops. A very tight planting window, wet conditions, and variable temperatures have all factored into our status.

This reinforces the need to scout your fields for potential issues. I anticipate that with the narrow planting window (during which a lot of the crop was planted!) we have set the table for some potential insect issues this summer. Also, since much the pre-plant/pre-emerge/early post herbicides were applied in a similar tight window, many weed problems may surface at about the same time, resulting in a need for much more application equipment in the area than is available. Be on the lookout for weed emergence, as small weeds are much more susceptible to herbicides than larger ones. And try to identify the weeds and be accurate with size estimates. One thing I hated when I was working for an input supplier was to be told by the grower in the morning that the weeds were 2-3" tall, plan an herbicide application to control that issue, then have the applicator call in saying most of the weeds were 7-10" tall and the herbicides and/or rates would not be effective. For everyone's benefit, please be diligent and accurate with scouting and identification. If you have questions on plant identification, please contact me or your input supplier so the right product in the appropriate amount can be applied.

I would encourage similar thinking regarding insects and potential insect damage. With the relatively warm winter and plants being close to the same size, IF an insect issue develops it has the potential to be major. Prudent use of insecticides – at labeled rates and only after meeting economic thresholds – is critical to successful insect management and will enhance your profits. Spraying because there *MIGHT* be an insect doesn't work well, plus it normally kills any beneficial species out there that might be able to help fight off the bad species.

The arrival of plant disease issues can be easier to predict, and may potentially be easier to deal with if there is widespread predicted impact. Airplanes can cover wide areas quickly with fungicides, especially if the target issue is observed farther south as it moves this direction. Again, scouting is important to know what you are up against.

So, in case you missed it, scout fields early and often!

Spring/Summer Pasture Weed Control

Late spring and early summer can be a wonderful time to work on pasture improvement, while you are able to check your livestock and reduce undesirable plant species at the same time!

In a similar vein to the field crop side of things, please work to know the plants in the landscape – both the ones you like as well as the ones you find objectionable. It is good to know if the plants you find objectionable are in fact weeds, or if they are really good to have there!

Once the plant species have been identified and a determination made that in fact they **ARE** undesirable, it is important to establish a way to remove them in a safe, effective and efficient manner. Understanding the purpose of your pasture (graze vs hay) and knowing if there are plans to SELL hay, and into what kind of a market (some people believe anything that isn't grass is objectionable – which may not be correct) all factor into the treatment decision. And be certain to note any herbicide label restrictions on haying or grazing.

Knowing the control products is important, but knowing the plant growth stage for proper application becomes even more important. Even though a plant may be listed on the herbicide label, it may not be the appropriate time for application. Specifics on Sericea Lespedeza control area covered below, but a more common issue might be buckbrush. 2,4-D at the appropriate time (usually in the spring just when the buckbrush reaches full leaf) is usually very effective for control. However, if sprayed in mid-summer, the plant may be too mature and hardened off. The leaves may be burned back, but the plant will not be killed and more than likely will leaf out again.

Some herbicides may not have the desired effect once a plant reaches or passes a certain growth stage. Again, read the label to understand any potential restrictions. And although there may be many products labeled, there are more than likely products that are more effective based on the species, environment, and growth stage.

Finally, remember that research has shown that Remedy or PastureGard while the plant is vegetative is most effective against sericea lespedeza, while Escort is most effective once the plant starts flowering (usually in late August or September).



23rd Annual Flint Hills Prairie Wildflower and Pasture Tour

June 8 is the date for the 2017 Flint Hills Wildflower and Pasture Tour near the Chase and Butler County lines. The Chase and Butler County Conservation Districts and Extension personnel have coordinated this event again this year. Since there is limited seating on the busses for the tour, **RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE** by calling the Butler County Extension Office at 316-321-9660 or the Flint Hills Extension District Office in Cottonwood Falls at 620-273-6491.

Busses will board at 6:00 pm or 6:15 pm (depending on your loading location) and will once again showcase the beauty of the area. Tour guides will be on each bus to provide you with information on the history and plant diversity of the area. Call now to reserve your space!

Non-Spring Rangeland Prescribed Fire

Over the past 3 years, research has been conducted to study the effects of summer and early fall fire on soil cover, plant species composition, and sericea lespedeza. The objective of one study was to monitor the effects of 3 consecutive years of August (7/30) or September (9/1) fires on soil cover and basal plant cover of native grasses, forbs and shrubs as compared with traditional spring burning (4/1). Nine units of approximately six acres each were burned at one of the three times: early spring, mid-summer, or late summer. In July, each site was assessed to determine plant composition and soil cover. In this study, when compared with traditional spring burns, no negative changes were observed.

The objective of the second study was to monitor the effects of 3 consecutive years of growing season burns on the vigor of sericea lespedeza. The study was conducted at the same time, with the same sites and burning regimens. Data was collected on forage biomass, canopy frequency, and seeds per sericea plant. Following these three years, researchers observed major decreases in sericea lespedeza canopy frequency (how often it was found in the landscape), plant weight, and seed production. Based on this research, it appears that growing season fire may have merit as another tool to try to keep sericea lespedeza in check.

These two projects may have an additional benefit of helping reduce the springtime smoke issues. However, at this point livestock performance and economic research needs to be undertaken to determine if this is a viable alternative in the Flint Hills of Kansas.

Eastern Tallgrass Range School August 22-24

The 2017 KS Range Schools are going to be held in August! It is time to start thinking about attending this year to learn more about range land management in a friendly, educational and informative setting with other ranchers, land managers, range management students and natural resource professionals. You can register at KGLC.org for the schools which cost \$350 per student which covers room, board and tuition for the 2½ day schools. Scholarships of \$175 are available for most ranchers and eligible college students while scholarships of \$125 are available for most natural resource agency personnel. The East or Tallgrass School is scheduled for August 16-18 at Camp Wood YMCA near Elmdale, KS.

Besides learning plant identification, how to figure stocking rates, how to monitor vegetation response and the rest of the basics needed to manage your rangelands for both livestock and wildlife, there will be ranchers and natural resource professionals talking with you about planning for and responding to whatever nature or market forces bring to your ranching enterprise to keep rangeland health high and livestock productive. Learn more at the KGLC website, KGLC.org, email barth.crouch@gmail.com or call 785-452-0780. Make this the year you attend the Kansas Range School!

2017 Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle to be in Manhattan

The 2017 Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle Conference will be held August 29-30, 2017, at the Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center, Manhattan. The workshop is designed to improve knowledge of physiological processes, improve management that impacts reproductive success, and application of reproductive technologies.

Headquartered at the Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center in Manhattan, the event is hosted by KSU Animal Science and K-State Research and Extension. The meeting has a long history of providing the latest information on the application of reproductive technologies and includes many topics related to cow herd management.

The meeting is open to anyone with an interest in beef cattle reproduction including producers, technicians, veterinarians, and professionals in related industries. Program details will be available soon at www.AppliedReproStrategies.com.

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Horticulture

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Master Gardener
Lyon County

June – July 2017

Master Gardener Applications Available

Do you enjoy gardening? Do you want to learn more about plants and how they grow? If you answered yes to these two questions, then being a Master Gardener is for you. The Lyon County Extension Office will be accepting applications for individuals interested in becoming a Lyon County Extension Master Gardener from now to August 4th. Once the applications are received a letter with information about the orientation session and interview will be sent out to the applicant. After the orientation session and interview, individuals will then be selected to go through the training process to become a Lyon County Master Gardener.

After being accepted into the Master Gardener program, all new trainees will attend roughly 40 hours of training. The training will take place every Thursday for 12 weeks starting September 7th. Classes will be held mainly in Newton, but will rotate between Emporia, Hutchinson, El Dorado, Haysville, and Hesston. There will be a Lyon County van traveling there and back on training days.

After the Master Gardener Trainee has completed the 40 hours of training, they are given one year to complete 40 hours of volunteer service and 5 hours of continuing education. After the first year, the Master Gardener will then have to complete 15 hours of volunteer service plus 5 hours of continuing education to remain an active member.

Lyon County Master Gardeners complete their volunteer hours by working in different demonstration beds throughout Emporia, helping at Sick Plant Clinics, 4-H/Youth events, helping in area schools promoting horticultural practices, having an informational booth at the Flint Hills Greener Living Show, educating school age children at Zoo Adventure and the Emporia Garden tour.

If you are interested in becoming a Lyon County Master Gardener, stop by the Extension Office to pick up an application or visit our website www.lyon.ksu.edu and click on the Master Gardener tab located on the left-hand side of the page. Applications are due August 4, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. at the Lyon County Extension Office.

2017 Emporia Garden Tour

The 2017 Emporia Garden Tour will be Saturday, June 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There will be five sites on this year's tour and they include:

Carolyn Montgomery
217 S. Commercial St.

Barbara and Larry Lyons
1720 Hammond Dr.

Velma Walker
545 Road 140

Brickside Beds – Chris Stanley
427 Sylvan St.

Red Rocks State Historic Site
William Allen White House
927 Exchange St.

House tour at 11:00 am, will cost an additional \$5.00.

Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the Lyon County Extension Office or through any Lyon County Extension Master Gardener. Tickets will also be available the day of the tour at all the tour stops. All proceeds support the Lyon County Master Gardener Education Fund.

Look for Bagworms in June

Most calls on how to control bagworms come in late July to early August when damage appears. Bagworms are difficult to control when they are that large. They are much easier to kill while small. Bagworms overwinter as eggs inside the dead female's bag. Young larvae normally hatch and emerge during mid to late May in Kansas. Now would be a good time to use control measures if you haven't already sprayed. However, make sure the bagworms are present by looking for a miniature version of the mature bagworm. Also, check to be sure the bagworms are alive before spraying. Predators and parasites can sometimes naturally control this pest.

Insecticides commonly used for controlling bagworms include acephate (Orthene), permethrin (numerous trade names), cyfluthrin (Bayer Vegetable and Garden Insect spray), bifenthrin (Bug Blaster II, Bug-B-Gon Max Lawn and Garden Insect Killer), lambda-cyhalothrin

(Spectracide Triazicide, Bonide Caterpillar Killer) and spinosad (Conserve; Borer, Bagworm, Leafminer and Tent Caterpillar Spray; and Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew). Spinosad is an organic control that is very effective on this pest. Thorough spray coverage of foliage is essential for good control with any of these products.

Keep Mower Blades Sharp

With mowing season starting, we need to remember to keep the blades sharp on our lawn mowers. Dull blades will cause a whitish cast on our lawns. A dull blade does not cleanly cut the blade of grass; instead it shreds the end of the leaf blade. The whitish cast starts to appear as the shredded ends of the grass blade starts to dry out. A sharp mower blade is more important as the turf starts putting up the seed heads. Seed head stems are much tougher than the grass blades and more likely to shred. Under normal use, lawn mower blades should be sharpened every 10 hours of use.

Soil Testing

Before amending your soils or adding fertilizer before planting it is a good idea to have a soil test done. A soil test helps us understand what the pH, phosphorus, and potassium levels already are. If these levels are within recommended ranges for your crops, then we only recommend fertilizers with nitrogen. We will also inform you to be cautious on the amount of organic matter, peat moss and some other amendment you want to add to the soil as they can affect the pH level. The only element we normally do not test for is nitrogen. Nitrogen is easily leached out of the soil during watering or rain events. When giving soil recommendations we generally do recommend a nitrogen fertilizer.

Here are a few tips on collecting soil samples. If you follow these tips, then the results will be more representative of the overall area. When taking the samples, make sure that you are collecting soil to a depth of 8 to 12 inches. This is to give a more representative sample in the roots zone. Take at least 10 samples from the area. Combine these samples in a clean bucket and mix them together. After mixing the samples together, select about a pint of soil and place it in a zip top container and bring it into the Extension Office to be sent off for testing. If you are doing more than one area, make sure to label your samples. When you bring the samples into the office, you fill out a form that gives some background information about the garden plot, landscape bed or lawn to help with recommendations when the results come back. Once the office obtains the results, you will then receive the results with recommendations for your area.

Hornworms on Tomatoes

Hornworms are the largest larval insect commonly seen in the garden. Though usually seen on tomato, they can also attack eggplant, pepper, and potato.

The larval stage of this insect is a 3 ½- to 4-inch long pale green caterpillar with five pair of prolegs and a horn on the last segment. The two most common hornworms are the tobacco hornworm (seven diagonal white stripes and, most commonly, a red horn) and the tomato hornworm (v-shaped markings with a horn that is often blue or black).

The adult of the tobacco hornworm is the Carolina sphinx moth. The five-spotted hawk moth is the adult of the tomato hornworm. Both moths are stout-bodied, grayish-colored insects with a wing spread of 4 to 5 inches.

The larva is the damaging stage and feeds on the leaves and stems of the tomato plant, leaving behind dark green or black droppings. Though initially quite small with a body about the same size as its horn, these insects pass through four or five larval stages to reach full size in about a month. The coloration of this larva causes it to blend in with its surroundings and is often difficult to see despite its large size. It eventually will burrow into the soil to pupate. There are two generations a year.

This insect is parasitized by a number of insects. One of the most common is a small braconid wasp. Larva that hatch from wasp eggs laid on the hornworm feed on the inside of the hornworm until the wasp is ready to pupate. The cocoons appear as white projections protruding from the hornworm's body. If such projections are seen, leave the infected hornworms in the garden. The wasps will kill the hornworms when they emerge from the cocoons and will seek out other hornworms to parasitize.

Handpicking is an effective control in small gardens. Bt (Dipel, Thuricide), spinosad (Conserve; Borer, Bagworm, Leafminer & Tent Caterpillar Spray; Colorado Potato Beetle Beater Conc; Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew, Monterey Garden Insect Spray), cyfluthrin (Bayer Vegetable & Garden Insect Spray) and other insecticides may also be used to control hornworms.



Lyon County Extension Agent
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Family and Consumer Sciences

President's Council Dates Extension Office Meeting Room

September 1, 2017 - noon

October 6, 2017 – noon

November 3, 2017- noon

Fair Volunteers Needed

We have had several fair volunteers retire over the last few years. We need additional volunteers as generals and superintendents in the Open Class Division during the fair.

Kids Cooking Camp (KidsaCookin')

June 12 and 13 - RSVP by June 2

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Lyon County Extension Office (pickup child up by 2:15)

This one day camp is aimed at children 3rd grade complete to 5th grade. They will learn the art of menu planning, grocery shopping and fun cooking skills to make complete meals for their family. Variations on yeast bread will be the focus of camp this year. We will take our basic bread in the bag recipe and make it three or four different ways. Including a Stromboli to take home to cook and share with their family. The students will also be making their own lunch during the camp. Food Safety and freezing meals will also be covered during the camp. We must have at least 5 people signed up to have class with a maximum of 12 people. A small registration fee of \$5.00 must be paid to hold your spot. The \$5.00 fee must be paid by June 2. Call 341-3220 for more information.

National Festival of Breads



Lots of baking has been taking place at the Wheat Innovation Center to select the top finalists for the 2017 National Festival of Breads! Mark your calendar now for **June 17, 2017**

to come and enjoy the festival in Manhattan, KS at the Hilton Garden Inn.

New this year is the Enrich Your Life 5K & 1 mile Fun Run. A portion of the event proceeds will be donated to the Flint Hills Breadbasket. Admission to the festival is free with a donation of a canned or nonperishable food item. These donations will also go to the Flint Hills Breadbasket. The tentative schedule and link to sign up

for the 5K is at <http://nationalfestivalofbreads.com/hints-and-happenings/2017/06/17/festivalschedule>



Spotlight Event at the Lyon County Fair

The Spotlight Event at the Lyon County Fair this year will be a take on the Antiques Road Show. You may bring two items on Sunday August 6th from 2 to 4 p.m. to the Bowyer Building. There will be evaluators on site to evaluate your items. This year we will be focusing on small hand held objects, paper, glass, china, jewelry, hand tools and more (no furniture). Please watch for more details as they develop. This should be a fun experience and something new and different as our Spotlight Event.

Community Service Project – Help Stop Hunger in Lyon County!



This year's Community Service Project at the fair will be nonperishable food items to help restock local pantries and support local projects. We are asking you drop off nonperishable items from Saturday August 5th to Monday August 7th at the designated table in the Anderson Building. Items will be accepted during normal hours of Anderson Building. The food items will support The Salvation Army, Spartan Stop, Food for Students and the Corky Cupboard. Help stop hunger in Lyon County!



Unit Tour Thursday June 15th

8:00 a.m. to Approx. 6:00 p.m.

Come and experience Abilene during our Unit Tour on Thursday, June 15th. Abilene is home to eight of the Kansas Sampler Foundation's 8 Wonders of Kansas winners and finalists.

I am still working out the details of the itinerary at the writing of this newsletter. Plans so far include the C.W. Parker Carousel, tour of the museum and a ride on the

carousel and the Seeley Mansion Tour. Still working on lunch plans. Tour of the Eisenhower museum in the afternoon and a stop at the Bankes Drug Soda Fountain. An ice cream or soda fountain favorite before we head home.

Cost per person will be \$40.00 with lunch included. We must have a minimum of 7 sign up to make the trip happen. RSVP by June 2.

Fair Time News

Anderson Building Open Class and 4-H Superintendents meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 18th at 5:30 p.m. Plan on meeting at the Extension Office.

See you at the fair August 3rd to the 12th. Anderson Building will be open August 5th after 5 p.m. to August 9th at 9:30 p.m. Each unit member needs to have an entry so their unit gets 100 % participation.

Anderson Building Entries will be released on Thursday morning August 10th from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. Superintendents can get in building at 7:00 a.m.

Your Chance to Serve!!

If you are interested in serving or becoming more involved, please consider serving on the Extension Council. The Council is made of 24 members, six serving on one of four Program Development Committees (PDC): Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H Youth Development and Community Development. The Program Development Committees provide guidance for Extension programming for the county. **Please contact us by Friday, September 1st, 2017 to let us know of your interests on being placed on the ballot.**

Colored Canning Jars at the Fair

These are the recommendations put out from Karen Blakeslee at KSU. Don't use the colored canning jars for exhibits at the fair. The explanation follows.

As most of you know, the Ball Canning jars are now available in blue and green colors to celebrate the 100th anniversary of these jars. While these are fun for people to use, I do not encourage them to be used for fair entries at the county/district fairs and at the State Fair. They should only use CLEAR canning jars for the fair.

Test Your Canner



I am sending off our Presto Test Kit to be checked. It is time for you to check your gauges. I hope to have our testing kit back by May 1. The brands of canners that can **ONLY** be tested with the Presto Testing Unit include National (those made by the National Pressure Cooker Company, au Claire, Wisconsin), Magic Seal (sold at Montgomery Ward), Maid of Honor (sold at Sears, Roebuck and Company), and Presto® Pressure Canners. I **CANNOT** test All American gauges or any other brands.

Unsaturated Fat Best for Heart *Solid science backs advice to replace saturated fat with polyunsaturated*

Replacing Saturated Fat:

When you cut back on saturated fat, what you eat instead could make a big difference for heart health. Tuft's University calculated that replacing just 1% of daily calories from the predominant saturated fatty acids with the same amount of calories from polyunsaturated fat, whole grains or plant proteins (such as legumes) was associated with a 6 to 8% reduced risk of heart disease.

Different choices of what is used to replace saturated fat are a key reason the results from some studies on saturated fat and heart health have been inconsistent (and have led to misleading news headlines). Tuft's University explains, if you replace saturated fat with healthful polyunsaturated fat, you'll get a very different result than replacing it with refined carbohydrate, such as in many baked goods and processed snacks. A higher intake of refined carbohydrate increases heart disease risk.

"The food source of saturated fat may also alter effects [on heart disease risk]," says Dariush Mozaffarian, MD, DrPH, dean of Tufts' Friedman School. "Dairy fat from cheese, for instance, is not linked to the same elevated heart disease risk as saturated fat from red or processed meats. It's unclear whether low-fat or regular dairy is better for health. In contrast, it's evident that bacon, sausage and other cured meats should be avoided."

In short, not only does the weight of scientific evidence show you should cut back on saturated fat (especially from fatty meats and butter), it also carries a caution to take care what you choose instead. Tufts' Lichtenstein advises us to reach for a bottle of corn or soybean oil.

Return Service Requested

Check out our website at
www.lyon.ksu.edu

June

- 05 Master Gardener Meeting, noon, EMR
- 05 Dog Project Meeting, 6 p.m., EG
- 05 Ambassador Meeting, 6 p.m., EMR
- 05 4-H Council Meeting, 7 p.m., EMR
- 08 Flint Hills Prairie Wildflower & Pasture Tour
- 10 Lyon County Open Youth Rodeo, 4 p.m.
- 11 Lyon County Open Horse Show, 9 a.m.
- 12 Kids Cooking Camp, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., EMR
- 13 Kids Cooking Camp, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., EMR
- 15 Unit Tour, 8 a.m.
- 15 KSF & KJLS nominations due
- 15 Hop To It Rabbit Club, 7 p.m., AB
- 16 4-H Day Camp, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., AB
- 17 Master Gardener Garden Tour, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- 18 Poultry Club Meeting, 1 p.m., EMR
- 19 Dog Agility, 6 p.m., EG
- 20 SE Area Horticulture, Crops, Photography and Favorite Foods Contest, AB
- 20 Cloverbuds, 6 p.m., EMR
- 23 Camp Counselors to 4-H Camp
- 24-27 Sunny Hills 4-H Camp, Rock Springs
- 27-30 Campference, Rock Springs
- 29 SE Area Livestock Judging, Yates Center

July

- 01 ALL 4-H Fair pre-entries due**
- 04 Independence Day – Extension Office Closed
- 05 Dog Project Meeting, 6 p.m., EG
- 05 4-H Ambassador Meeting, 6:00 p.m., EMR
- 05 4-H Council Meeting, 7 p.m., EMR
- 10 Master Gardener Meeting, 5:15 p.m., AB
- 11 District Horse Show, 9 a.m., Lawrence
- 15 Countywide Photography Meeting, 9 a.m., EMR
- 15 Countywide Rocketry Meeting, 10 a.m., EMR
- 16 Poultry Club Meeting, 1 p.m., EMR
- 17 Dog Agility, 6 p.m., EG
- 18 4-H & Open Class Superintendents Meeting, 5:30 p.m., EMR
- 20 Hop To It Rabbit Club, 7 p.m., AB
- 27 Friends of 4-H Picnic, 6:30 p.m., AB

August 3 – 12 Lyon County Fair – See 4-H section for 4-H show dates and times!

AB = Anderson Building
BCB = Bowyer Community Building
EG = Extension Garage
EMR = Extension Meeting Room