

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Lake Cumberland Area Cattle A.I School**

**September 12th: 10:00am - 4:00pm CST**

Russell Co. Extension Office

270-866-4477

**September 30th: 10:00am - 4:00pm EST**

Pulaski Co. Extension Office

606-679-6361

### **Lake Cumberland Area Cattle Pregnancy**

#### **Determination School**

**August 27th: 6:00pm EST**

90 Gabby Shelton Rd, Parkers Lake, KY 42634

606-376-2524

**October 29th: 6:00pm EST**

TBD Liberty, KY 42539

606-787-7384

### **2024 Heart of America Grazing Conference**

**October 15-17, 2024**

Hardin County Extension Office

111 Opportunity Way, Elizabethtown KY

### **2024 Kentucky Intermediate Grazing School**

**September 25-26, 2024**

Woodford County Extension Office

184 Beasley Drive, Versailles, KY 40383

### **Beekeeper's Meeting**

**September 5th: 6 PM CST**

Russell County Extension Office



**Martin-Gatton**

College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
University of Kentucky

## **Russell County Agriculture and Natural Resources September 2024 Newsletter**

### **In this issue...**

- Upcoming Events
- Off the Hoof: Timely Tips
- Economic Update: Ag Census Summary
- National Weather Service: Wildfires and Weather
- Recipe: Farmer's Market Squash Saute

**Russell County Extension Office**

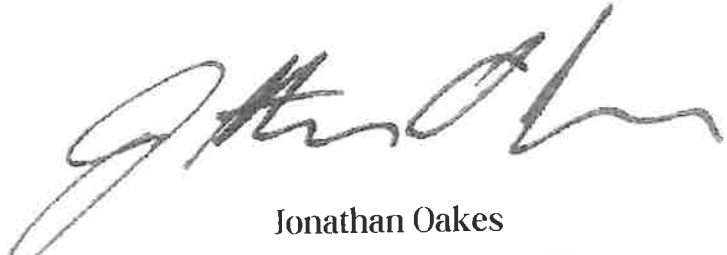
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**Jonathan Oakes**  
CEA for Agriculture and Natural Resources



# OFF THE HOOF



Cooperative Extension Service  
University of Kentucky

**Beef IRM Team**  
**Beef Extension**

**KENTUCKY BEEF CATTLE NEWSLETTER AUGUST 1, 2024**

*Each article is peer-reviewed by UK Beef IRM Team and edited by Dr. Les Anderson, Beef Extension Specialist, Department of Animal & Food Science, University of Kentucky*

This month's newsletter includes:

Timely Tips – Anderson

Managing Cool-Season Pastures for Enhanced Fall Growth– Teutsch

Growing On-feed Inventory, Lower Placements, and No Sign of Heifer Retention – Burdine

Johne's Disease and Detection in Beef Cattle Frequently Asked Questions - Arnold

Timely Tips

*Dr. Les Anderson, Beef Extension Professor, University of Kentucky*

Spring-Calving Cow Herd

- 
- Fescue pastures don't generally produce much this month. Some of us have had some rain but the heat has punished our pastures and cattle this summer. Most of you may have some forage going into the usually dry months. Keep rotating pastures to permit calves to continue gaining weight. Always keep minerals available. Bulls should have been removed from the cow herd by the end of the month. They should be pastured away from the cow herd with a good fence and allowed to regain lost weight and condition. It is a good time to evaluate physical condition, especially feet and legs. Bulls can be given medical attention and still have plenty of time to recover, e.g., corns, abscesses, split hooves, etc. If removing the bull is not practical for you then call your herd veterinarian and schedule a pregnancy diagnosis. Market your "late-bred" cows and keep those that conceived early in the breeding season. Repair and improve corrals for fall working and weaning. Consider having an area to wean calves and retain ownership for postweaning feeding rather than selling "green", lightweight calves. Plan to participate in CPH-45 feeder calf sales in your area.

## Fall-Calving Cow Herd

- Dry cows should be moved to better pastures as calving time approaches. Cows should start calving next month. Yearling heifers may begin "headstart" calving later this month. Plan to move cows to stockpiled fescue for the breeding season, so it will soon be time to apply nitrogen fertilizer.
- Prepare for the fall-calving season (usually September). Get ready, be sure you have the following:
  - record book
  - ear tags for identification
  - calf puller
  - Castration equipment

# Economic & Policy Update

E-newsletter Volume 24, Issue 7

Editors: Will Snell & Nicole Atherton



Department of Agricultural Economics  
University of Kentucky

JULY  
2024

## Ag Census Summary on Government Farm Program Payments for Kentucky Counties/Regions

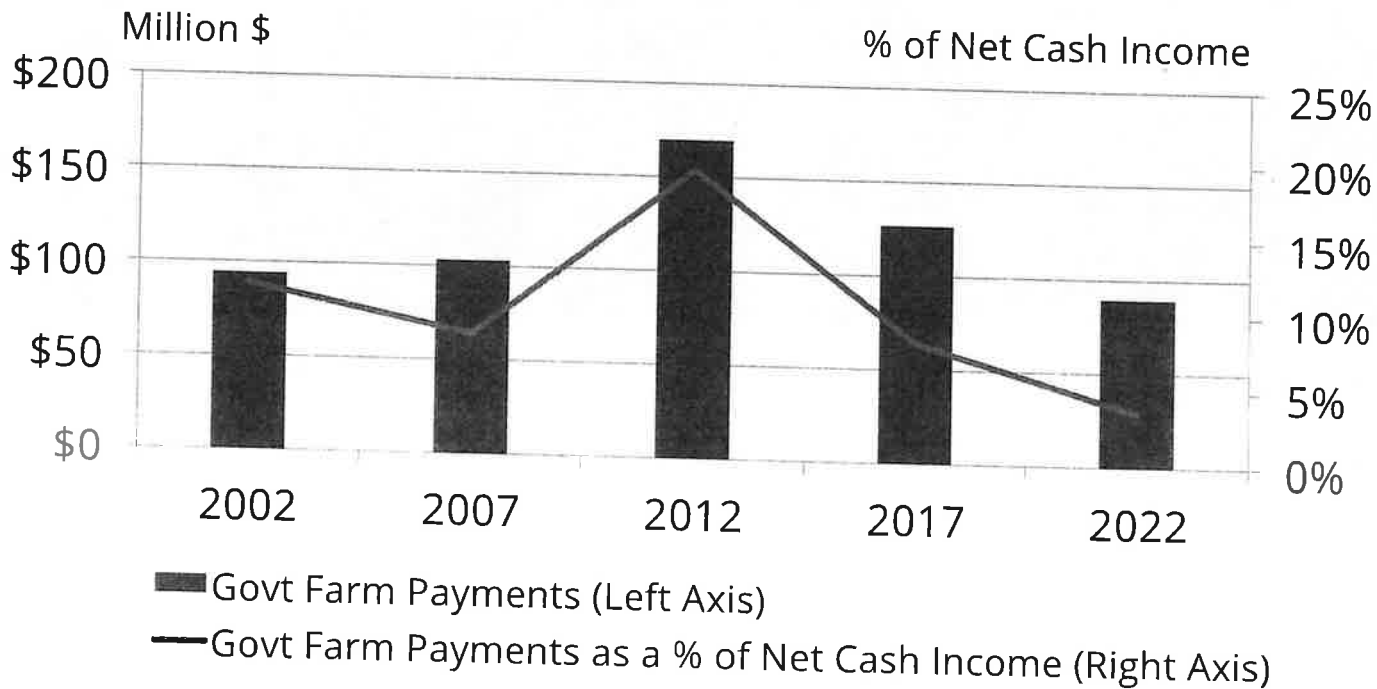
*Author(s): Will Snell*

*Published: July 30, 2024*

The Ag Census provides data to examine the relative importance of government farm program payments on a state and county level. Over the past two decades, these payments have included traditional farm bill safety net programs such as the Agriculture Risk (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs and previous price/revenue support programs such as Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment *Program* (DCP) and Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program) along with conservation payments. These payments have also included ad hoc programs like the Market Facilitation Program (MFP), Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), along with Tobacco Transition Payment Program (better known as the “Tobacco Buyout payments”).<sup>[1]</sup>

Focusing over the past five ag census years (2002, 2007, 2012, 2017, and 2022), government farm payments for Kentucky averaged \$116.5 million, or 8.3% of the state’s net cash farm income from all farming operations. Over the past five census years, Kentucky government farm program payments were consistently less than the national average. For the most recent ag census (2022), government payments accounted for only 3.6% of Kentucky net cash farm income. Higher commodity prices and record net farm income in 2022, plus the ending of tobacco buyout payments help explain the decline in the relative importance of government payments to the state’s net farm income.

Figure 1. Government Farm Payments for Kentucky - Ag Census



Source: NASS/USDA

On an individual county basis, as one would expect, our western Kentucky counties accounted for the largest percentage of government farm program payments in Kentucky. Christian County led the state receiving an average of \$6.3 million annually over the past five census periods (accounting from 5.4% of Kentucky's federal farm payments) followed by Graves County (\$6.0 million), Logan County (\$5.2 million), Warren County (\$3.9 million) and Calloway County (\$3.4 million).

Examining USDA agricultural districts over the past five ag census periods, the Midwestern region of Kentucky comprised the largest recipient of government payments (33.5%), followed by the Central (28.8%) and Purchase (19.5%) regions. [2] Notably, the Bluegrass, Eastern, and Northern regions experienced a relative smaller percentage of government payments in 2022, likely reflecting the loss of tobacco buyout payments. Higher grain prices encouraged more grain acres in these regions in recent years, but data indicate a significant number of grain acres in these counties not being eligible for farm bill payments. For example, the Bluegrass and Central Kentucky Agricultural Districts have 6.9% of the state's base acres used in calculating farm bill payments, but have comprised over 7.2% of the state's grain acres in recent years. Current farm bill proposals are considering allowing the entry of new base acres reflecting more recent production patterns, which could benefit these regions if this proposed provision becomes a part of the next farm bill.

Table 1. Farm Program Payments by Agricultural District

Agricultural District	Percent of Kentucky Farm Program Payments (2002-2022 Census)	Percent of Kentucky Farm Program Payments (2022 Census Only)
Bluegrass	11.6%	7.4%
Central	28.8%	33.3%
Eastern	3.90%	3.4%
Midwestern	33.5%	35.1%
Northern	2.7%	1.3%
Purchase	19.5%	19.5%

Source: USDA Ag Census

[1] While these payments were paid by from funds evolving from assessments on tobacco companies and not by using taxpayer funds, they were distributed by USDA and thus counted by USDA as direct government farm payments from 2005-2014.

[2] For a list of counties in each of the Kentucky Agricultural Statistic Districts, [click here](#) and go to [page 3](#).

Recommended Citation Format:

Snell, W. "Ag Census Summary on Government Farm Program Payments for Kentucky Counties/Regions." *Economic and Policy Update* (24):7, Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Kentucky, July 30, 2024.

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## **Wildfires and Weather A Potentially Deadly Combination**

Tony Edwards - National Weather Service Charleston, WV



Wildland forest fires are fairly common across the Commonwealth, but especially so in the forests of eastern Kentucky. The Kentucky Division of Forestry reports that, on average, there are over 1,400 wildfires each year across Kentucky. Arson is the number one cause of those fires, with uncontrolled burning ranking second. Ninety-nine percent of all wildfires in Kentucky are caused by humans!

Many of us have seen what look like harmless fires burning in the leaf litter in our forests during the dry fall and spring seasons. Some of us may have even been responsible for a burn pile or two getting "out of control". These situations shouldn't be taken lightly, however, as given the right conditions, these fires can become deadly.

On April 6, 1999, rapidly changing weather conditions and steep terrain combined on a wildfire (named the Island Fork Fire) in Rowan County, resulting in the death of two volunteer firefighters, ages 28 and 30. These firefighters were overrun by the wildfire which likely started when a landowner lost control of a fire while clearing a fence line. The wildfire advanced quickly up the steep terrain, with flames as high as 20 feet and winds increasing rapidly to over 35 mph! Char marks on the tree bark were up to 50 feet high! While such fire conditions are rare in Kentucky, they illustrate how dangerous wildfires can be and why you should take measures to prevent them from occurring.

The National Weather Service issues Red Flag Watches and Red Flag Warnings to inform fire management agencies and the public when weather conditions are right for rapid wildfire growth. A Red Flag Watch means to be prepared as dangerous fire weather conditions are possible in the next few days but are not occurring yet. A Red Flag Warning means dangerous fire weather conditions are occurring now or are expected to occur shortly. During a Red Flag Warning, you should use extreme caution when dealing with anything that could pose a wildfire hazard.

When fire danger is elevated, you may see a burn ban go into effect. Usually these are on a local county level, and are enforced with assistance from local law enforcement. Burn bans generally prohibit burning of forest, grass, crops, woodlands, marshes and other similar areas. Make sure to check with your local fire department or county officials before burning.

Keep in mind that during fire seasons in Kentucky, it is illegal to burn anything within 150 feet of any woodland or brushland between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. The Spring Forest Fire Season runs from February 15 - April 30 and the Fall Forest Fire Season runs from October 1 - December 15. Violation of the burn ban is a misdemeanor punishable by law!

# What Causes Wildfires?

A spark, in the presence of fuel and oxygen, can cause a fire, which can further spread depending on various weather conditions.

**A SPARK + FUEL & OXYGEN = FIRE! X WEATHER CONDITIONS**

Fires can be sparked by natural causes, but most wildfires in the U.S. are caused by human activity.

Natural causes:



Lightning strikes



Heat from the sun

Human activity:



Vehicles & machinery



Cigarette butts



Fireworks



Campfires & burning brush

Fuel is usually dry vegetation.



Grass



Brush



Trees

Oxygen is almost everywhere.



Certain weather conditions can make fires bigger, faster, and more dangerous.



Strong wind



Drought



High temperatures & low humidity

weather.gov



## FIRE WEATHER WATCH

A Fire Weather Watch is issued when **critical fire weather conditions are possible**.

“Critical fire conditions” means warm temperatures, low humidity, and strong, gusty winds.

**Be Prepared.**

## RED FLAG WARNING

A Red Flag Warning is issued when **critical fire weather conditions are happening or are about to happen**.

Avoid burning, be careful around open flames, safely dispose of cigarettes. Fires can spark and grow very quickly.

**Take Action!**



weather.gov

# **Lake Cumberland Area Cattle Pregnancy Determination School**

*Participants will learn how to check cattle  
for pregnancy using chuteside blood tests.*

*Class sizes are limited.*

*Participants must call to reserve their spot.*

**August 27th at 6:00pm EST**

**90 Gabby Shelton Rd**

**Parkers Lake, KY 42634**

**606-376-2524**

**October 29th at 6:00pm EST**

**TBD**

**Liberty, KY 42539**

**606-787-7384**





# **LAKE CUMBERLAND AREA**

## **CATTLE A.I. SCHOOLS**

Programs will begin in the classroom, then will  
move on to the hands-on portion.

Each school is limited to 10 participants.  
Spots must be claimed by calling to register.

September 12th

10:00am - 4:00pm CST

Russell Co. Extension Office

270-866-4477

September 30th

10:00am - 4:00pm EST

Pulaski Co. Extension Office

606-679-6361





## Farmers Market Squash Sauté

**2 cups** whole grain rotini pasta  
**3** boneless chicken breasts  
**1 tablespoon** olive oil  
**2 medium** zucchini, diced  
**4 medium** carrots, peeled and diced

**2 medium** yellow squash, diced  
**2** garlic cloves, minced  
**2 tablespoons** fresh chopped basil  
**¾ cup** light Alfredo sauce  
**2 tablespoons** shredded Parmesan cheese

**Cook pasta** according to package directions. **Roast** chicken breasts at 400 degrees F to an internal temperature of 165 degrees F, about 25-35 minutes. **Dice** chicken into bite sized pieces. In a large sauté pan, **add** olive oil, zucchini and carrots. **Sauté** until slightly cooked. **Add** yellow squash and garlic and **sauté** until all vegetables are tender. **Remove** from heat and **stir** in basil, diced chicken and pasta. **Add** Alfredo

sauce and **toss** until ingredients are evenly coated. **Reheat by tossing** the ingredients in the sauté pan for 3-5 minutes over medium heat. **Sprinkle** with Parmesan cheese and **serve**.

**Yield:** 8, 1 cup servings

**Nutritional Analysis:** 230 calories, 7 g fat, 2.5 g saturated fat, 40 mg cholesterol, 210 mg sodium, 27 g carbohydrate, 4 g sugars, 18 g protein.

**SEASON:** June through October  
**NUTRITION FACTS:** Squash is low in calories. One cup raw squash contains only 20 calories. It contains vitamins A and C, and is naturally free of fat, cholesterol and sodium.  
**SELECTION:** Popular summer squashes include yellow crookneck, yellow straight neck, zucchini, cocozelle and patty pan. Summer squashes should be picked or purchased when small and tender; both skin and seeds are eaten. The peel holds many of the nutrients so do not peel. It should be harvested at 6 to 8 inches in length. Patty pan squashes are ready when they are 3 to 4 inches in diameter or less.  
**STORAGE:** Store unwashed squash in plastic bags in the crisper drawer of the refrigerator with the handles

just **before** preparing. The storage life of **summer** squash is brief. Plan to use within two to three days.  
**PREPARATION:** Summer squash is a mild flavored vegetable and combines well with herbs and seasonings. Try it with basil, allspice, rosemary and marjoram. Cook summer squash as a vegetable or use in stews, casseroles and main dishes. Summer squash can be grilled, steamed, boiled, sautéed, fried or used in stir-fry recipes.  
**PRESERVING:** Select small squash with small seeds and a tender rind. Wash and cut into ½ inch slices and heat in boiling water for 3 minutes. Cool promptly in cold water and drain. Pack in containers leaving ½ inch headspace. Freeze at 0 degrees

### KENTUCKY SUMMER SQUASH

Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences

University of Kentucky, Dietetics and Human Nutrition students

June 2018

Source: [www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov](http://www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov)

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<http://plateitup.co.uky.edu>



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