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 Cooperative
Extension Service



Farm Update

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AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES
EDUCATION

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Developing Daviess County Agriculture

The Green River Area Beef Improvement Group, a volunteer-led, non-profit organization administers the County Agriculture Investment Programs in Daviess, Mclean, Webster, and Henderson County. It has been allocated \$100,000 of Kentucky Agricultural Development Funds to conduct the Daviess County cost share program this fall. Eligible items should be purchased between December 17, 2023, and November 30, 2024. All receipts, completed project pictures, copies of canceled checks or credit card statements, and GRABIG funding request documentation must be postmarked on or before November 30. A website discussing eligible items can be found at <https://www.kyagr.com/agpolicy/2024-Program-Guidelines-and-Applications.html> Only one application per home mailing address and USDA farm number is allowed.

House Bill 611 became law during the 2000 General Assembly. The purpose was to distribute 50 percent of the state monies received from a Master Settlement Agreement between the major cigarette manufacturers and Kentucky for the general purpose of agricultural development in the Commonwealth. The goal for these funds was to financially support innovative ideas for projects that could increase net farm income and agriculture across the state by stimulating markets for Kentucky farmers who previously relied on tobacco income. It was

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intended to encourage producers to find new ways to add value to Kentucky agricultural products and explore new opportunities for Kentucky farms. It was a huge success!

Daviess County has been a leader throughout this entire process. Early on, the newly created Daviess County Agricultural Development Council served as the local clearing house for ideas and applications requesting funds before final approval of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board. The council, comprised of local delegates representing the Soil Conservation District, Farm Service Agency, Cooperative Extension, early career farmers, and local agriculture businesses reviews funding request applications to determine if the proposed project is a priority in the development of agriculture in Daviess County. The council, now in its 24th year has received many unique, innovative funding requests. Their leadership has supported “outside the box” ideas which have had the potential of providing seed money for the greater good of agriculture.

Another unique aspect of the agricultural development fund has been the educational contribution provided through the Cooperative Extension Service and Kentucky Beef Network. All agricultural development fund recipients have attended one or more education seminars which increased their farming knowledge. Great strides have been made in the quality and yield of livestock and crop enterprises from the investment and education applied to the enterprises for which our farmers received cost share.

For more information, or to request an application, call the Extension Office at 270-685-8480 or email me at chardy@uky.edu.

Southern Corn Leaf Rust Confirmed

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The UK plant disease diagnostic lab confirmed southern corn leaf rust on a sample from Daviess County on Friday, July 12. Dr. Kiersten Wise, extension corn disease specialist said last week that corn at or past R3 (milk stage) will likely not need a fungicide application to prevent yield loss. Likewise, corn that has been sprayed with fungicide and is past R2 (blister stage) will not need a second application.

There is particular concern about the very late-planted corn. In most cases, farmers should wait to apply fungicide until as close to VT/R1 as possible. Unless southern rust is confirmed in a pre-tassel field, we should try to wait until VT to get the maximum benefit from the fungicide application. Dr. Wise advocates making decisions about pre-tassel applications for southern rust on a case-by-case basis. With current corn prices farmers will likely not make money on fields that receive two fungicide applications, so we are trying to assess fungicide needs for specific fields rather than blanket applications.

Meetings this week

Extension Grain Marketing Specialist, Dr. Grant Gardner, will be at the Daviess County Extension office next Monday, July 22 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the crop condition, recent supply and demand estimates, and to share information to strengthen your marketing plan leading into fall.

The annual corn, soybean, and tobacco field day will be held at the Princeton Research Station on Tuesday, July 23. Registration begins at 7:30, the first tours begin at 8 a.m. No preregistration is needed for either meeting. Either event fulfills the educational requirement for cost share eligibility if you've not already attended a meeting this year.

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