

Ohio County Farm & Home News

Cooperative
Extension Service

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CAIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE



Applications for the “2024 County Agricultural Investment Program – CAIP” (cost-share program) are now available at the Ohio Co. Extension Office. Applications may be picked up during normal business hours – 8:00 a.m. till noon & 1:00 p.m. till 4:30 p.m.

You may also print a copy of the application off the Ohio Co. Extension website at: <https://ohio.ca.uky.edu/>. Once on the home page, scroll down to “Upcoming Events” and click the “CAIP applications. Then scroll down and click on “2024 CAIP APP.pdf”

Applications will be available from April 22nd - May 24th, but must be turned into the Extension Office by **noon on May 24th, no exceptions.**

Information about the different projects areas eligible for cost-share are available on the KDA website at: <https://www.kyagr.com/agpolicy/2024-Program-Guidelines-and-Applications.html> Scroll down to the guidelines for the “CAIP” program. When looking thru this website, make sure you are looking at the “2024 Guidelines” and not the 2023 guidelines.

If you do not have internet access, you may visit the Ohio Co. Extension Office and we have a computer/internet you may use to check the guidelines.

As always, there have been changes to some of the project areas, so read the guidelines closely. The biggest change is the % cost-share available for the various eligible items in a project area. Some items are 25%, some are 50% and some are 75% cost-share. So, read the project area guidelines closely.

BCQA TRAINING – APRIL 30TH



The state is offering FREE BCQA training during the month of April, so next Tuesday, April 30th we will have a BCQA (formerly called BQA) training for anyone needing training. The training will begin at 6:30 p.m. CT and last about 1½ hours.

Remember, if you are participating in the CAIP programs’ “Large Animal” project area, you must have a valid BCQA number. Here is your chance to get FREE BCQA.

EARLY MORNING TEMPS – APRIL 22 – MAY IMPACT WHEAT

The following article is from Dr. Carrie Knott, Extension Grain Crops Specialist, discussing the low temperatures on April 22nd and the potential impact on wheat yields.

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Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

Across Kentucky, virtually all the wheat crop is in late boot/heading or in many areas beginning to flower. The early morning low temperatures Apr 22 were quite literally frosty. In some areas, the low temperatures were in the range that could potentially cause damage to the wheat crop. Although the minimum air temperature recorded at 2.0 meters may not have fallen to or below the critical temperatures that may cause wheat damage, it is likely that the temperature was lower at the height of the wheat heads as illustrated for many of the KY Mesonet Temperature Inversion sites. Therefore, it will be important to scout for freeze damage prior to making decisions on the profitability of applying wheat head fungicides this year.

The Ky Mesonet site in Ohio County recorded a low of 30 degrees F for approximately 2 hours.

It will take at least five to seven days with high temperatures of at least 40°F to be able to see damage. Given this week's forecast, we should be able to easily see freeze damage as early as Monday April 29.

For a visual guide to identify freeze damage refer to "AGR-253: Identifying Damage and Estimating Yield Reductions following a Spring Freeze in Winter Wheat".

For videos demonstrating how to assess freeze damage at different growth stages visit the following:

jointing

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=oaPiOU-sRo>)

flowering (<https://youtu.be/u0DUgEa23bE>)

during grain fill (<https://youtu.be/OhcqjeilE8s>).

BULLISH APRIL CATTLE ON FEED REPORT



The following article is from Dr. Kenny Burdine, U.K. Livestock Marketing Specialist, discussing the latest

'Cattle on Feed" report.

Cattle on feed reports have not been especially kind to the cattle complex in recent months. Despite fewer cows and a smaller calf crop, on-feed inventories have been running above year-ago levels. Over the last several months, feeder cattle placements have been higher than most analysts would have expected. Weather and high prices likely encouraged some early placements in some regions going back to fall. At the same time, marketings seemed to be relatively slow. I suspect this has been partly due to expensive feeder cattle and cheaper feed. This combination tends to encourage adding more weight to current feedlot inventory and rising harvest weights seem to be supporting this hypothesis.

This brings us to the April Cattle on Feed report, which came at the end of a week when cattle markets had gained back a portion of what had been lost since late March. The number that stood out the most was the estimate of March placements, which came in 246,000 head lower than March of 2023. I don't want to read too much into a single report, but this 12% decrease is significant and came in below all the pre-report estimates I had seen. Sometimes it is beneficial to take a bit longer view on something like this. If I look at the entire first quarter, placements were down 4% for 2024. This is a number that seems to make sense given feeder cattle supplies. It's also worth noting that the first quarter of 2024 included February 29th due to 2024 being a leap year.

The April report is also one of the quarterly reports where an estimate is made of the on-feed breakdown between steers and heifers. This can provide some indication of heifer retention for breeding purposes and will be especially important this year as we may not have the July Cattle Inventory report. As of April 1, heifers and heifer calves accounted for 38.5% of on-feed inventory. Heifers accounted for 40% of on-feed inventory in October of last year and 39.7% in January of this year. The fact that the share of heifers on feed is decreasing does bear watching in the coming months, but still does not point to significant heifer retention. If one goes back and examines the last expansionary period, the heifer percentage was below 35% for ten straight quarters – from the first quarter of 2015 to the second quarter of 2017.

Put simply, the most recent "Cattle on Feed" report was the most bullish that we have seen in a good while. Despite the fact, total on feed numbers remain above

2023 levels, they were still below trade expectations. Sharply lower placements seemed to confirm that feeder cattle supplies are very tight. And there is still no evidence that large numbers of heifers are being held for replacement purposes. While the volatility in the cattle markets is likely to stay, the supply picture remains encouraging for feeder cattle markets.

UPCOMING Events

- April 30 – May 1 - Beginning Grazing School; Central Presbyterian Church; Princeton; 7:30 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. each day
- April 30 - BCQA Training; Ohio Co. Extension Center; 6:30 p.m.
- May 14 – U.K. Wheat Field Day; U.K. Research Farm, Princeton; 8:30 a.m. till noon
- May 21 - KATS Crop Scouting School; U.K. Research Farm, Princeton; 8:00 a.m. till 3:30 p.m.