

# Ohio County Farm & Home News

## PESTICIDE SAFETY EDUCATION TRAININGS



For many years the “Pesticide Safety Education Training” was considered only for people using restricted-use pesticides, but with today’s pesticide products all pesticide users producing crops for consumption, should attend one of the trainings. Pesticide products are safer than they have ever been, but if not used properly, they can be harmful to not only the user, but the environment, as well.

I have set up “**Pesticide Safety Education Trainings**”, at the Ohio Co. Extension Center, for this year:

- **Tuesday, Feb. 11 – 8:00 a.m. till 11:00 a.m.**
- **Thursday, Feb. 20 - 8:00 a.m. till 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. till 9:00 p.m.**
- **Thursday, March 6 – 6:00 p.m. till 9:00 p.m.**

Check your cards to be sure you have a valid certification for 2025 or we can check when your card expires, by calling the Extension Office. Cards expire on December 31 of the year of expiration. The “Pesticide Safety Education” is free and open to anyone wanting to attend, whether you are renewing your certification or need to receive your certification for the first time.

## BEEF/FORAGE MEETING – FEB. 18<sup>TH</sup>

We will hold our annual “**Beef/Forage Meeting**” on **February 18<sup>th</sup>** at the Ohio Co. Extension Center, starting with a beef dinner, at 6:00 p.m.

Guest speakers will be:

- Dr. Kenny Burdine, U.K. Extension Livestock Economist, discussing the current beef markets and an outlook on how the 2025 beef markets should perform.
- Dr. Chris Teutsch, U.K. Extension Forage Specialist, discussing repairing pasture & hayfields after last years delayed cuttings and last season dry weather.

This program should be an excellent opportunity for you to get started into 2025 with valuable with great fellowship with other county producers.

See you on the 18<sup>th</sup>!!!



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Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

## KY MAPLE DAY – FEB. 15<sup>TH</sup> AT HITCHEL FARM

Native Americans made maple sap into maple sugar long before the Europeans arrived in America. Today, U.S. consumers are demanding more natural, chemical free food sources. Thus, a rebirth of tapping



trees for maple syrup in Kentucky.

Maple Day was created about 4 years ago, as an educational and celebration event centered around how maple syrup is produced. The program is coordinated statewide by the University of Kentucky/Department of Forestry. In 2025, maple syrup producers across Kentucky will celebrate “Ky Maple Days on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> and Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>.”

Hitchel Farm started participating in Maple Days in 2020. So, be sure to bring your family to Hitchel Farm on **Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> for “Ky Maple Day”**, to see how maple syrup is collected from trees and turned into “REAL” maple syrup.

Kentucky Maple Days is a great winter agritourism opportunity to get the family out to visit some of Kentucky’s maple producers and see how this industry is making a comeback in the state.

You can visit **Hitchel Farm, at 4735 Rob Roy Rd. near Cromwell**. They will open their farm to visitors on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, from **9:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m.** They will have tours to the sugarbush (where they collect the sap from trees) and sugar shack (where they cook the sap into syrup), live demonstrations, fresh maple syrup and a “Sweet Shop” with various goodies made from maple syrup. There will also be plenty of hot chocolate!!!

The Ky Maple Day program represents a unique opportunity for Kentucky families to get their hands on pure Kentucky maple syrup and learn how it is made.

## NOXIOUS WEED SPRAY PROGRAM

Each year, the Ky Department of Agriculture offers the “Noxious Weed Spray Program” to farmers across Kentucky.

The guidelines are the same as the last few years:

- KDA furnishes the chemical for demonstrations on seven (7) farms per county
- Chemical will be supplied for 10 acres, to be sprayed with 2,4-D
- Application is performed with a two-wheeled trailer type sprayer equipped with boomless nozzles
- If additional 2,4-D chemical is provided by the participant, an additional 10 acres can be treated
- The participant must provide water source
- The participant must provide tractor and operator
- All chemical products must be labeled and the product label will be strictly followed
- Any farm or farm owner that has participated in the last 3 years is ineligible to participate

This program is designed to target weeds that have a negative impact on the participant’s agricultural production, such as thistles, buttercup, etc... There will be an annual online application period to participate in this program. You may submit an application using the on-line services by February 28<sup>th</sup>. The application is located at:

<https://www.kyagr.com/consumer/nuisance-weed-spraying-program-application.aspx>

KENTUCKY DEPT.



OF AGRICULTURE



## UPCOMING EVENTS!

- February 8 – Union Co. Bull Sale; Union Co. Expo Center, Sturgis; sale starts at 1:00 p.m.
- February 11 – Pesticide Safety Education Training; Ohio Co. Extension Center; 8:00 a.m. till 11:00 a.m.
- February 15 – Maple Day at Hitchel Farm; Hitchel Farm near Cromwell; 9:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m.
- February 18 – Beef/Forage Meeting; Ohio Co. Extension Center, Hartford; 6:00 p.m.
- February 20 – Pesticide Safety education Training; Ohio Co. Extension Center; 8:00 a.m. till 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. till 9:00 p.m.
- February 25 – Master Logger Web TV; Ohio Co. Extension Center, Hartford; 8:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m. CT
- March 6 – Pesticide Safety Education Training; Ohio Co. Extension Center; 6:00 till 9:00 p.m.
- March 11 – Beef Quality & Care Assurance Training; Ohio Co. Extension Center; 6:00 p.m.
- March 20 – Drone Sprayer School; U.K. Research & Education Center, Princeton  
For information and registration for KATS Workshops visit [kats.ca.uky.edu](http://kats.ca.uky.edu) or contact Lori Rogers [lori.rogers@uky.edu](mailto:lori.rogers@uky.edu) 270-365-7541 ext 21317.
- March 27 – Italian Ryegrass Control Field Tour; Caldwell Co. Extension office, Princeton; 8:30 a.m. till 11:30 a.m.

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