

Marion County Ag Extension Newsletter

June 2023

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Upcoming Events

SOW App

Kids Section

National Weather Service

A Word From Your County Agent:

With the first day of summer quickly approaching, please protect your skin from harmful UV rays when outside working or just enjoying the weather. Here are 3 tips to remember: use sunscreen, avoid peak sun and find shade. While these things aren't always easy to do, it is important to protect your skin!



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University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.

LEVINSON, KY 40548



Disabilities
accommodated
at all events

Upcoming Events

June 6th

Beginners Canning
10:00am AND
5:00pm

Marion County Extension Office

June 13th

Sheep and Goat Meeting
7:00pm
Marion County Extension Office

June 15th

Cattlemen Meeting
7:00pm
**Guest Speaker: Dr. Charles
Townsend**

Call 270-692-2421 to RSVP



Like us on Facebook:

**Marion County Cooperative
Extension Office**

June 19th

**Marion County Extension
Office CLOSED in observance
for Juneteenth**

June 24th

Marion County Fair Dairy Show
Marion County Fair Horse Show

July 1st

Marion County Fair Beef Show

July 8th

**Marion County Fair Sheep and
Goat Show**



SOW App



Source: Rick Durham, UK horticulture extension specialist

Kentucky gardeners have a new tool available in Apple and Google Play app stores to assist with planting, sowing and harvesting decisions for their home garden.

SOW—A Planting Companion is a free app based on University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension's publication ID-18 Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky. The app also incorporates information for Alabama and North Carolina and other areas in U.S. Department of Agriculture Plant Hardiness Zones 6a-9a. Kentucky is primarily in zone 6b, with a few areas in 6a or 7a. After downloading the app, enter your state and county to get customized plant information based on your hardiness zone. You can always change the information later in the settings menu.

The app has three main sections: My Garden, Journal and Library. The library currently has information and photos of about 36 popular home garden vegetables. You may sort the vegetables alphabetically, by harvest date or by planting date. Clicking on a vegetable in the library will open information about that vegetable, including estimated days to harvest, expected yield, plant spacing, planting depth, soil pH range and average number of plants per person you need to include for a good harvest.

You can add vegetables to the My Garden section. You can develop more than one garden, for example, a spring garden, a summer garden and a fall garden, and keep them separate. My Garden helps you keep track of planting dates, seed or transplant planting method, the specific cultivar or variety you planted and when you should be able to harvest it. You can even plan ahead and enter a planting date for the future and the app will give you the option to add this date to your phone's calendar as a reminder.

After you harvest a crop, you the Journal section to record yield, harvest date or any other notes you may need to help plan next year's garden.

The app can also link you to your local Cooperative Extension office, where you'll find staff information and ways to contact extension agents with questions. Download the app through Apple, <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/sow-a-planting-companion/id840347996>, or Google, https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=edu.aces.SOW&hl=en_US&gl=US&pli=1, or search for it in your mobile device app store.

For more information about gardening or other horticulture topics, contact the Marion County Cooperative Extension Service.

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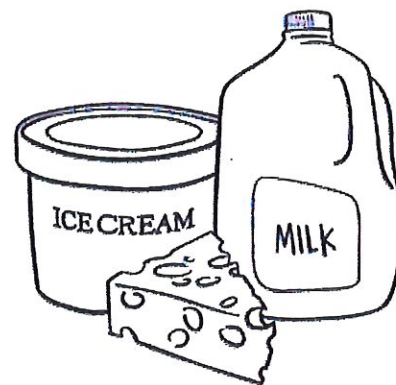
June is Dairy Month!

The top dairy cattle counties in KY are:

**Logan, Barren,
Adair, Christian
and Warren.**

Dairy

A dairy cow can produce 12 gallons of milk per day. Ice cream, cheese, yogurt and butter are all products made from milk.



Milk is a nutrient powerhouse. It contains calcium, vitamin D and phosphorus which play an important role in keeping bones and teeth strong.



There are six kinds of dairy cows in the U.S.:

**Guernsey, Jersey,
Brown Swiss,
Holstein, Ayrshire and
Milking Shorthorn.**

Ag in the
Classroom
Louisiana



Spring Tornado Safety

By Jane Marie Wix - National Weather Service Jackson, KY (in coordination with Kentucky Emergency Management)

Each year, the United States experiences an average of 1,200 tornadoes. Many strike rural areas and cause little damage, and most have paths well under one mile in length and winds under 100 mph. However, a few tornadoes can become large and violent, with wind speeds approaching 200 mph, tracking tens of miles and leaving swaths of destruction and death. In Kentucky, tornadoes have occurred during every month of the year and at every hour of the day. However, they occur most frequently from March through June and typically between 3 and 10 PM. Nighttime tornadoes are often more dangerous as they are harder to see and most people are sleeping.

So what do you do if there is a tornado? How do you stay safe?

Before a Tornado

- Have a family tornado plan in place and practice a family tornado drill at least once a year.
- Have a predetermined place to meet after a disaster.
- Learn the signs of a tornado: dark, greenish sky; large hail; dark, low clouds; and loud roaring sounds.
- When a tornado watch is issued, practice your drill and check your safety supplies.
- Increase your situational awareness by monitoring the weather on weather.gov, watching local TV, or listening to NOAA Weather Radio.
- Flying debris is the greatest danger in tornadoes; so store protective coverings (e.g., mattress, helmets, sleeping bags, thick blankets, etc) in or next to your shelter space, ready to use on a few seconds notice.
- Tornado rule of thumb: Put as many walls and floors between you and the tornado as possible!
- If you are planning to build a house, consider an underground tornado shelter or an interior "safe room".
- **In a mobile home: GET OUT!** Go to a neighbor's house, underground shelter, or a nearby permanent structure. Most tornadoes can destroy even tied-down mobile homes.

During a Tornado

- Wear a bicycle or motorcycle helmet to protect your head and neck or cover your head with a thick book.
- **In a house with a basement:** Avoid windows. Get in the basement and under some type of sturdy protection (heavy table or workbench), or cover yourself with a mattress or sleeping bag. Know where very heavy objects rest on the floor above (pianos, refrigerators, dressers, etc.) and do not go under them. They may fall down through a weakened floor and crush you.
- **In a house without a basement, a dorm, or an apartment:** Avoid windows. Go to the lowest floor, in a small interior room (like a bathroom or closet), under a stairwell, or in an interior hallway with no windows. Crouch as low as possible to the floor, facing down. A bath tub may offer a shell of partial protection. Even in an interior room, you should cover yourself

with some sort of thick padding (mattress, blankets, etc.), to protect against falling debris in case the roof and ceiling fail.

- **In a car or truck:** If you are caught by extreme winds or flying debris, park the car as quickly and safely as possible - out of the traffic lanes. Stay in the car with the seat belt on. Put your head down below the windows; cover your head with your hands and a blanket, coat, or other cushion if possible. If you can safely get noticeably lower than the level of the roadway, leave your car and lie in that area. Avoid seeking shelter under bridges.
- **In the open outdoors:** **lie flat and face-down on low ground, protecting the back of your head with your arms. Get as far away from trees and cars as you can.**

After a Tornado

- Remain calm and alert, and listen to the radio or TV for instructions from authorities.
- Keep your family together and wait for emergency personnel to arrive.
- Carefully render aid to those who are injured.
- Stay away from downed power lines.
- Watch your step to avoid broken glass, nails, and other sharp objects.
- Stay out of any heavily damaged houses or buildings.
- Do not use matches or lighters, there might be leaking natural gas pipes or fuel tanks nearby.



Image Courtesy of the Lexington Herald Leader (Lexington, KY)