

Lyon County

K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION NEWS

lyon.k-state.edu

June/July 2018

Brian Rees
Agriculture and
Natural Resources
brees@ksu.edu

Rhonda Gordon
Family and
Consumer Sciences
rgordon@ksu.edu

Corinne Patterson
4-H Youth Development
cpatt@ksu.edu

Travis Carmichael
Community Development
and Horticulture
trcarmic@ksu.edu

Debbie Van Sickle
Office Manager
dvansick@ksu.edu

Phyllis Krueger
Office Professional
kruegerp@ksu.edu

**Lyon County
Extension Office**
2632 W Highway 50
Emporia, KS 66801
Phone: 620-341-3220
Fax: 620-341-3228

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Research and Extension

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2018 Emporia Garden Tour

Saturday, June 16, 2018

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Don and Ruth Wise
1184 Road 220

Gwen Alexander
1427 Washington

Extension Master Gardener Demonstration Garden
Lyon County Fairgrounds

Carolyn Koch
107 S. Sylvan

Elaine Bentz
2661 West Ridge Dr.

Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the Lyon County Extension Office or through any Lyon County Extension Master Gardener. Tickets will also be available the day of the tour at all of the tour stops. All proceeds support the Lyon County Extension Master Gardener Programming Fund.

It's Your Chance to Serve!

If you are interested in serving or becoming more involved with Extension work, please consider serving on the Lyon County Extension Council.

The Council is made of 24 members with six each serving on one of the four Program Development Committees (PDC's): Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H Youth Development, and Community Development. The Program Development Committees provide guidance for Extension programming for the county.

In Lyon County, the Extension Council is elected in an at-large election. Extension Council members are elected to a 2-year term and may be re-elected once (total of four consecutive years) before they must sit out for a year. Twelve Extension Council members are elected or re-elected annually and represent one of the four Extension programming areas.

All citizens of voting age are eligible to be candidates and vote in the at-large elections. The public annual election meeting is held not earlier than September 1, but not later than ten days before the annual meeting of the council.

Please contact us by Friday, August 31, 2018 to let us know if you are interested in having your name on the ballot!

The 2018 Lyon County Extension Council Elections will be:

October 10, 2018

7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

At the Lyon County Extension Office

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

The Clover Connection



Congratulations Seniors!



Congrats to the 20 high school seniors in the Lyon County 4-H program. We wish them all the best of luck in their futures! Senior 4-H include: Andrea Anderson, Chance Redeker, Derek Richardson, Hailey Horn, Hanna Wecker, Hannah Herron, Haylee Hammond, Hayley Cole, Jacob Heins, John Fritts, Kaitlyn Karjala, Kaman Simmons, Karlee Wigton, Karsen DeWeese, Michael DeWeese, Leiah Annett, Madelynne Douglas, Maura Halleran, Rider Nettleton and Shelby Smith.

2018 Lyon County Fair Pre-entries

Fair pre-entries will again be available through an online fair system purchased by the Lyon County Fair Board. 4-H families will direct enter the projects they wish to exhibit at the 2018 fair. Please prepare and make pre-entries online by the July 1 deadline. More information will be posted at www.lyon.ksu.edu under the 4-H Youth Development tab.

All pre-entries will be made via the online fair management program, including rodeo, rabbit and poultry. With family tagging, be sure that prior to sitting down to make livestock entries, please have your tag numbers ready and matched with your 4-Hers. You'll want to enter all livestock with the correct 4-H tag to be shown by the respective 4-Her. If necessary, animals may be substituted for a 4-Her so long as a properly tagged animal is substituted for the 4-Her, but 4-Hers should have a good idea of which animal(s) they intend to show in a specific class at the fair by the July 1 pre-entry deadline.

You will have assigned livestock housing by club and family this year. Livestock insurance will still need to be paid for at the Extension Office by July 1.

Shooting Sports pre-entry: If you participated in the winter ribbon shoot or know you will qualify and participate in the summer Shooting sports ribbon shoot, please pre-enter in the correct categories for shooting sports. Watch the 4-H tab on the Extension website for pre-entry assistance and for more information.



Please be sure to check out the livestock weigh times on the fair calendar included in this newsletter. Weigh-in times have been changed and new this year all beef and bucket calves will be weighed and checked in on Friday following the small animals. This will allow for an earlier start on the goat show on Saturday. Please read schedules and the fair book closely.

Keep in mind that there is no way to be inclusive when trying to highlight fair changes. Read over your classes carefully when you receive your fair book. The fair book should be available online the first part of June at www.lyon.ksu.edu.

4-H Day Camp

The Lyon County 4-H Ambassadors are hosting a 4-H Day Camp on Tuesday, June 19 at the Anderson Building from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. All youth between the ages of 7 and 11 are encouraged to attend. Day camp will highlight 4-H projects through many fun activities. The cost for the event is \$10 per person. The fee includes lunch, supplies and snacks. Payment will be due the day of the camp. Everyone must pre-register by June 13 by calling the Extension Office.

Gary Fuller Spring Classic a Success

Congratulations to all the Lyon County 4-H exhibitors who participated in the 2018 Gary Fuller Spring Classic. We had 67 sheep, 98 goats, 110 cattle and 223 pigs during the weekend event. Please be sure to thank our local sponsors who helped make this show a success.

Allen Meat Processing
Bennett Dental Group
Bluestem Farm & Ranch Supply
Bunge North America
The Copper Top
Brian & Jill Creager
Davis Farms Trucking
East Emporia Vet Clinic
Farm Bureau Financial Services – Brian Filingher
Frontier Farm Credit
Fuller Hay
Gary Fuller Memorial
Dan & Susan Johnson
Jerry & Sharon Karr

Malone Hereford Farm
MRSK Buildings
Larry & Sylvia Miller
Murphy Agri LLC
Navrat's Office Products
PrairieLand Partners John Deere
Producers Coop of Girard
Schellhamer Builders
Wingert Farms
Roland Webb

2018 Fair Notes

The official fair dates are Aug. 2-11. The Friends of 4-H Picnic will kick off 4-H related activities on July 26. You may find a fair schedule online at www.lyon.ksu.edu. The Anderson Building will be closed for the final time on Wednesday, Aug. 8 at 9:30 p.m. The projects will be released from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 9.

There will be a meat goat and sheep health inspection at the 2018 Lyon County Fair. The inspection will take place prior to your animals going across the scale, so it's important to check them prior to bringing them to the fairgrounds. All livestock, including sheep and meat goats, are expected to be in good health and disease free to enter upon the fairgrounds. If in doubt, check with your veterinarian prior to bringing your animal(s) to the fairgrounds. All animals are subject to examination by officials of the Lyon County Fair. Any animal appearing diseased, emaciated or extremely unthrifty will not be accepted.

Clean Up Your Livestock Stalls at the Fair

No matter what specie(s) a 4-Her exhibits at the Lyon County Fair, that 4-Her and his or her family is responsible for cleaning up the stall(s) after the premium sale and release time. If you do not clean up after your livestock, the fair board may withhold your premium money for your livestock.

Southeast Area Contests

June 21 – SE Area Livestock Contest

The area livestock judging contest will be hosted Thursday, June 21 in Yates Center. The contest consists of a skillathon, livestock judging and a meats contest. It's a great opportunity for those who are involved in livestock projects to broaden their knowledge and have



fun competing with others who share this interest. Registration is \$10 per person and includes all three contests and lunch (hamburger, chips, brownie and pop or tea). Please call the Extension Office to indicate your interest.

June 12 – SE Area Horticulture, Crops, Photography and Favorite Foods Contest

A great opportunity to participate in many contests hosted right here in Emporia. Cost is \$10 no matter how many contests you try. I want to encourage a big turnout of Lyon County 4-Hers to help welcome our guests from across the area. Even if you've never judged or looked at one of these contests, you are encouraged to come try.

District Horse Show

The East Central Kansas District Horse Show is scheduled for July 10 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Lawrence. The show begins at 9:00 a.m. and includes the counties of Anderson, Coffey, Douglas, Franklin, Johnson, Linn, Lyon, Miami and Osage. Pre-entries must be postmarked by June 15, and the entry form can be picked up at the Extension Office or downloaded online at www.lyon.ksu.edu. You must be 9 as of Jan. 1, 2018 to participate and completed level testing required in your age division.

KJLS and KSF Information

June 15 – Livestock nominations for the Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show are due.

DNA and official 4-H ear tag numbers due for: Wether Dam Ewes and Commercial Ewes, Commercial Breeding Heifers, Market Lambs, Market Hogs, Commercial Gilts, and Meat Goats. Be sure to check the requirements online at www.youthlivestock.ksu.edu under the 2018 Nomination Update. DNA envelopes and nomination forms are available at the Extension Office. **Remember, a nomination is not an entry for the show.**

Friends of 4-H Picnic



The Friends of 4-H Picnic will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 26 in the Anderson Building. 4-H families are asked to bring: 1 vegetable/casserole dish, 1 salad, AND 1 dessert. Meat will be provided. The 4-H Council will provide tea, plates, and silverware. Please bring your food to the Anderson Building by 6:00 p.m. so serving can begin at 6:30 p.m.

Club assignments are as follows:

Picnic Set-up (Wednesday, July 25 at 6:00 p.m.): **Model Boosters, Rinker, Reading**
Decorations: **Riverside**
Arrange/Serve Food: **Sunflower**
Drinks: **Happy Harvesters**
Trash: **Busy Beavers**
Table/Chair Clean-up: **Chamness, Cloverleaf, Logan Avenue**

Fair Work Assignments

The club assignments for pre- and post-fair clean-up are as follows:

- Wednesday, July 25 – 6 p.m. Diner Clean up – **Busy Beavers**
- Saturday, July 28 – 7:30 a.m. – Set up Anderson Building for judging – **Happy Harvesters, Rinker**
- Monday, July 30 – 6 p.m. – Set up Anderson Building – **Riverside and all 4-H Superintendents**
- Monday, July 30 – 6 p.m. – Pick up trash on grounds – **Chamness, Sunflower, Cloverleaf, Reading**
- Tuesday, August 7 – 12:00 p.m. (noon) - Show arena pre-sale cleanup – **Model Boosters** - Immediately following the sale – show arena cleanup – **Logan Avenue**
- Thursday, August 9 – 7:30 a.m. **all 4-H superintendents**
- Release exhibits and cleanup Anderson Building
- Monday, August 13 - fair grounds clean up – **all clubs** – pizza and pop provided by the Fair Board.

2018 Kansas State Fair

The 2018 Kansas State Fair is September 7-16. In order to exhibit at the Kansas State Fair, 4-Hers must have turned 9 years old by Jan. 1, 2018. Livestock entries must have met nomination and entry deadlines. For all other projects, only purple ribbon winners are eligible to compete at the Kansas State Fair, with the exception of Visual Arts. Be sure to read the state fair guidelines as you may not be able to enter all items that received purple ribbons as some State Fair classes limit the number of items from each 4-Her. In the Visual Arts Division, the judges will select six exhibits for the State Fair. Even though Visual Arts exhibits are selected, they must still pre-enter. Visual Arts are for display and ribbon only, no premium money is awarded.

All State Fair pre-entries are due by 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 9. The pre-entry forms and a copy of the State Fair book will be available at the Fair Office during the fair. Pre-entries will not be accepted at the Extension Office.

4-H Council

4-H Council will meet June 4, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be held in the meeting room at the Extension

Office. The July Council meeting will be held at the Extension Office on Monday, July 2, at 7:00 p.m.

Lyon County Open Youth Rodeo/Horse Show

The 2018 Lyon County Open Youth Rodeo will be held on Saturday, June 30 at 4:00 p.m. Entry forms are available at the Extension Office. The Lyon County Open Horse Show will be held on Sunday, July 1 with registration beginning at 9:00 a.m. Information is available at the Extension Office.

Fair Ticket Sales

Fair tickets will be handed out on July 2. Club Leaders are encouraged to contact the Extension Office to set up a time to meet with a fair board representative to pick up club tickets on July 2. Money and excess tickets will be due back in the Fair Office, Wednesday, August 1 (schedule will be determined at the time of ticket distribution).

Kansas 4-H Dog Conference Theme Logo Design Contest

The Kansas 4-H Dog Conference logo design contest is open to all dog project members. Designs are needed for the 2018 theme “4-H Dogs Under Construction.” Designs must reflect this construction/building theme and be submitted electronically in a JPG format. PDF submissions will not be accepted. The winning logo design, with professional modifications, will be used for promotional efforts including t-shirts. The winning entry will receive a complimentary registration to the 2018 Kansas 4-H Dog Conference, October 20-21, 2018, Rock Springs 4-H Center. There is no cash value. The entries deadline has been extended to Friday, June 15. Questions may be directed to Deryl Waldren at dwaldren@ksu.edu or 785-462-6281.



2019 Discovery Days Task Force Applications Available

Do you have youth who love to attend 4-H Discovery Days? Encourage these people to apply to be on the Discovery Days Task Force for 2019! Discovery Days Task Force Applications are now available at kansas4h.org. Applications are due October 1, and applicants should expect to be notified by November 1 as to their selection as a Task Force member.

2018 LYON COUNTY FAIR 4-H SCHEDULE

Thursday, July 26

6:30 p.m. Friends of 4-H Picnic – Anderson Building

Friday, July 27

6:00 p.m. Dog Show – Anderson Building

Saturday, July 28

8:00 a.m. Clothing Construction & Construction Modeling, Boys & Girls Buymanship – Anderson Building

1:30 p.m. Photography, Home Environment, Rocketry, Forestry, Entomology, Reading, Geology, Leadership, Other Projects, Electrical & Fiber Arts Judging – Anderson Building

6:00 p.m. Public Fashion Revue – Anderson Building

Sunday, July 29

8:00 a.m. Horse Show – Arena

11:00 a.m. Hand Pet/Cat Show – Anderson Building

Thursday, August 2

4:30-5:30 p.m. Exhibit entry time for projects not conferenced judged or previously judged

5:30 p.m. Visual Arts, Foods, Crops, Horticulture, Floriculture, Metals, Woodworking, Reading & Banners – Anderson Building

Friday, August 3

(All animal entries in place by 5:00 p.m.)

3:00-5:00 p.m. Swine weigh-in

4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Sheep Weigh-in/ Meat Goat Weigh-in

6:00 p.m. Beef Weigh-in

7:00 p.m. Bucket calf check-in and weigh-in

7:30 p.m. Shooting Sports Awards Presentation – Show Barn Arena

Saturday, August 4

8:00 a.m. Meat Goat Show

6:00 p.m. Sheep Show

Sunday, August 5

8:00 a.m. Swine Show

9:00 a.m. Poultry Show

5:00 p.m. Kid's Pedal Tractor Pull

7:00 p.m. Team 4-H Livestock Presentation

7:15 p.m. Pee-Wee Showmanship

Monday, August 6

8:00 a.m. Rabbit Show

8:30 a.m. Beef Show

5:30 p.m. Bucket Calf Show

~6:30 p.m. Dairy Show (following completion of Bucket Calf Show)

Tuesday, August 7

8:00 a.m. Round Robin

Following Round Robin - Animal exhibits released except those in the Livestock Sale

6:00 p.m. Premium Sale – Lyon County Fair Grounds – Show Arena

Wednesday, August 8

6:00 p.m. 4-H Rodeo – Grandstands

Thursday, August 9

7:30-9:00 a.m. All exhibits released from the Anderson Building

9:00 a.m. State Fair entries due – Fair Office



Lyon County Extension Agent
Brian Rees
620-341-3220
brees@ksu.edu



Agriculture and Natural Resources

June-July 2018

Weeds and Insects in Field Crops

Cool and dry through most of April and early May (and later, depending on where you live!) has really had an impact on early season crop growth and development, as well as early season weed and insect pressures.

The soil conditions have allowed for probably as good of stands of corn early on as I can remember, with minimal early season stand issues. I frequently see issues from planting when the soil was a little too wet, or we received a downpour and drowned out some spots. That can still happen, but through mid-May it appears we have avoided it. The beans that have emerged are also doing quite well, but in some parts of the county there has been a little standing water that might reduce stands.

So far, I have heard of little in the way of insect, weed, or disease pressure in any crops. There has been a little feeding of alfalfa weevil, but the alfalfa has been slow to grow with cooler temps and dry conditions and the beneficial insects that feed on the weevil and aphids are increasing. Dry weather has limited the spread of disease issues in the VERY short wheat crop, but generally wheat prefers dry conditions over wet conditions.

I have not heard of any early-season insect pressures on the corn or soybeans, but moisture and higher temps can force a change quickly. Please scout your fields thoroughly, as small weeds are much more susceptible to herbicides than larger ones. With both insects and weeds, be sure to identify the issue to address and make sure to make a timely pesticide application at an appropriate threshold if warranted.

To maintain the effectiveness of the pesticides we need to reach the threshold levels before using them. Applying too early or too late will only build pesticide resistance. **Remember to scout fields early and often!**

Summertime Outdoor Precautions:

The rainfall and warmer temperatures have brought about an onslaught of flying and crawling pests – some of which can carry some serious diseases for humans. Ticks are becoming an increasing overall health threat according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC has issued a report noting that disease cases from ticks, fleas and mosquitoes more than tripled between 2004 and 2016.

Ticks can carry many diseases, but one—which causes an allergy to red meat—is on the rise. Lone Star ticks are transmitting an allergy to a carbohydrate called galactose-alpha-1,3-galactose that can make you allergic to beef and pork. It's not a mild, hay-fever type allergy. Humans affected with alpha-gal syndrome will experience a severe, delayed-reaction immune response which hits hours after you eat red meat. In addition to hives and itching, the episodes can land you in the emergency room with anaphylaxis. Victims may suffer from the allergy for months or years.

The ticks are aided by a warmer climate, but also because of the expanding white-tailed deer population in the U.S. Deer are one of the lone star tick's preferred hosts, and the deer provide the transportation help the ticks expand their territory.

I encourage you to take precautions against mosquitos and ticks when you are out and about this summer. There are many products on the market that are very effective, and although they may sound expensive, a tick or mosquito bite may result in a much greater expense and have life-changing consequences.

Wildflower and Pasture Tour

Once again for the 24th year, on June 7 at 6 pm, the 2018 Flint Hills Wildflower and Pasture Tour will take place near the Chase and Butler County lines. The Chase and Butler County Conservation Districts and Extension personnel have coordinated this event again this year. Since there is limited seating on the busses for the tour, **RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE** by calling the Flint Hills Extension District Office in Cottonwood Falls at 620-273-6491 or the Butler County Extension Office at 316-321-9660. Busses will board at 6:00 pm or 6:15 pm (depending on your loading location) and will once again showcase the beauty of the area. Tour guides will be on each bus to provide you with information on the history and plant diversity of the area. Call now to reserve your space!

Pasture, Range and Forage Insurance

If you haven't participated in the past few years, I would encourage you as a livestock producer to talk with your crop insurance agent or lender about PRF to insure your forage production. Deadline isn't until November, but now is the time to ask questions!

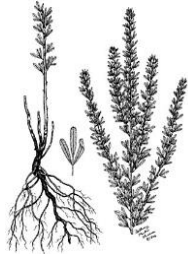
Early Summer Pasture Management

With good growing conditions, early summer can be a good time to reduce undesirable plant species in your pastures. Please work to learn the plants in the landscape – good and bad – and not just the ones you like! It is very good to know beneficial plants from harmful ones!

Once the plants are ID'd, determine the best means to manage them – increase, maintain, or remove – in the most effective and efficient manner. Know the purpose of your pasture (hay, graze, recreation) and particularly any label restrictions if you plan to use herbicides.

Also, become familiar with the products you may use. Just because a product has a plant on the label doesn't mean it will control it at any growth stage. Timing is critical in any herbicide control plan. And occasionally a plant may be defoliated but not killed and will re-leaf and flourish later in the season.

And remember that research shows that Remedy or PastureGard is most effective against sericea lespedeza while the plant is vegetative, while Escort is most effective once the plant starts flowering (usually in late August or September).



Upcoming Educational Opportunities

There are some good opportunities coming up this summer either here or nearby. July 9-13 there will be a series of Soil Health workshops across the state, with the closest one at Iola on July 9. These full-day workshops will cover a wide range of topics and will be presented by NRCS personnel.

From September 17-21, Jim Gerrish will present a series of workshops with his thoughts on Grazing Management for Improved Soil Health. He will be here in Emporia for a session on September 17, and in Eureka on the 18th. Jim is an outstanding speaker and will cover a WIDE range of grazing topics.

The KSU Beef Team invites you to the 2018 K-State Ranching Summit on August 15 at the Alumni Center in Manhattan. The 2018 theme is “Beef 2030 – Pursuing technology, transparency and profitability”. Registration will start at 8:30, with the first presentation at 9.

Contact me for additional information and registration details on any of these events. These are tremendous opportunities that are all within an easy drive!

Extra Summertime Projects

I will be working on a couple of projects this summer and the next few summers. First is a project to allow for better satellite monitoring of crops and crop health, which should enable better reaction times in case of non-weather-related stresses (think insects or diseases). The second will be a three-year commitment to study management impacts on sericea stands – in this case spring burn with herbicide compared with a late-summer burn. It will be interesting to see what kinds of results we are able to document, as well as the associated costs.

Eastern Tallgrass Range School

The 2018 Kansas Adult Range Schools are going to be held August 21-23 at Camp Wood YMCA near Elmdale. Plan to attend this year to learn more about range land management in a friendly, educational and informative setting with other ranchers, land managers, range management students and natural resource professionals. You can register at KGLC.org for the schools which cost \$350 per student which covers room, board and tuition for the 2½ day schools. Scholarships of \$175 are available for most ranchers and eligible college students while scholarships of \$125 are available for most natural resource agency personnel. The West, or Mid and Short Grass School, is scheduled for August 7-9 near Tipton.

Besides learning plant identification, how to figure stocking rates, how to monitor vegetation response and the rest of the basics needed to manage your rangelands for both livestock and wildlife, there will be ranchers and natural resource professionals talking with you about planning for and responding to whatever nature or market forces bring to your ranching enterprise to keep rangeland health high and livestock productive. Learn more at KGLC.org, call 785-452-0780, or email barth.crouch@gmail.com. Make this the year you attend the Kansas Range School!

Non-Spring Rangeland Prescribed Fire

Research continues on the effects of non-spring burning on the tallgrass prairies. So far, things are looking favorable regarding the impact on both sericea lespedeza and woody plant species.

It appears that consecutive years of late summer fire are quite effective at reducing seed produced and weakening the established sericea plants, with minimal effect on the plant species composition in the pasture. Data on livestock performance is being evaluated this year also.

Travis Carmichael
Extension Agent
(620) 341-3220
trcarmic@ksu.edu

Horticulture

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Master Gardener
Lyon County

June – July 2018

Master Gardener Applications Available

Do you enjoy gardening? Do you want to learn more about plants and how they grow? If you answered yes to these two questions, then being a Master Gardener is for you. The Lyon County Extension Office will be accepting applications for individuals interested in becoming a Lyon County Extension Master Gardener from now to August 10th. Once the applications are received a letter with information about the orientation session and interview will be sent out to the applicant. After the orientation session and interview, individuals will then be selected to go through the training process to become a Lyon County Master Gardener.

After being accepted into the Master Gardener program, all new trainees will attend roughly 40 hours of training. The training will take place every Thursday for 12 weeks starting September. Classes will be held mainly in Newton, but will rotate between Emporia, Hutchinson, El Dorado, Haysville, and Hesston. There will be a Lyon County van traveling there and back on training days.

After the Master Gardener Trainee has completed the 40 hours of training, they are given one year to complete 40 hours of volunteer service and 5 hours of continuing education. After the first year, the Master Gardener will then have to complete 15 hours of volunteer service plus 5 hours of continuing education to remain an active member.

Lyon County Master Gardeners complete their volunteer hours by working in different demonstration beds throughout Emporia, helping at Sick Plant Clinics, 4-H/Youth events, helping in area schools promoting horticultural practices, having an informational booth at the Flint Hills Greener Living Show, educating school age children at Zoo Adventure and the Emporia Garden tour.

If you are interested in becoming a Lyon County Master Gardener, stop by the Extension Office to pick up an application or visit our website www.lyon.ksu.edu and click on the Master Gardener tab located on the left-hand side of the page. Applications are due August 10, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at the Lyon County Extension Office.

2018 Emporia Garden Tour

The 2018 Emporia Garden Tour will be Saturday, June 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be five sites on this year's tour. We will be featuring Extension Master Gardener gardens on the tour and they include:

Don and Ruth Wise
1184 Road 220

Gwen Alexander
1427 Washington

Carolyn Koch
107 S. Sylvan

Elaine Bentz
2661 West Ridge Dr.

Extension Master Gardener Demonstration Garden
Lyon County Fairgrounds

Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the Lyon County Extension Office or through any Lyon County Extension Master Gardener. Tickets will also be available the day of the tour at all of the tour stops. All proceeds support the Lyon County Extension Master Gardener Programming Fund.

Look for Bagworms in June

Most calls on how to control bagworms come in late July to early August when damage appears. Bagworms are difficult to control when they are that large. They are much easier to kill while small. Bagworms overwinter as eggs inside the dead female's bag. Young larvae normally hatch and emerge during mid to late May in Kansas. Now would be a good time to use control measures if you haven't already sprayed. However, make sure the bagworms are present by looking for a miniature version of the mature bagworm. Also, check to be sure the bagworms are alive before spraying. Predators and parasites can sometimes naturally control this pest.

Insecticides commonly used for controlling bagworms include acephate (Orthene), permethrin (numerous trade names), cyfluthrin (Bayer Vegetable and Garden Insect spray), bifenthrin (Bug Blaster II, Bug-B-Gon Max Lawn and Garden Insect Killer), lambda-cyhalothrin (Spectracide Triazicide, Bonide Caterpillar Killer) and

spinosad (Conserve; Borer, Bagworm, Leafminer and Tent Caterpillar Spray; and Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew). Spinosad is an organic control that is very effective on this pest. Thorough spray coverage of foliage is essential for good control with any of these products.

Keep Mower Blades Sharp

With mowing season starting, we need to remember to keep the blades sharp on our lawn mowers. Dull blades will cause a whitish cast on our lawns. A dull blade does not cleanly cut the blade of grass; instead it shreds the end of the leaf blade. The whitish cast starts to appear as the shredded ends of the grass blade starts to dry out. A sharp mower blade is more important as the turf starts putting up the seed heads. Seed head stems are much tougher than the grass blades and more likely to shred. Under normal use, lawn mower blades should be sharpened every 10 hours of use.

Soil Testing

Before amending your soils or adding fertilizer before planting it is a good idea to have a soil test done. A soil test helps us understand what the pH, phosphorus, and potassium levels already are. If these levels are within recommended ranges for your crops, then we only recommend fertilizers with nitrogen. We will also inform you to be cautious on the amount of organic matter, peat moss and some other amendment you want to add to the soil as they can affect the pH level. The only element we normally do not test for is nitrogen. Nitrogen is easily leached out of the soil during watering or rain events. When giving soil recommendations we generally do recommend a nitrogen fertilizer.

Here are a few tips on collecting soil samples. If you follow these tips, then the results will be more representative of the overall area. When taking the samples, make sure that you are collecting soil to a depth of 8 to 12 inches. This is to give a more representative sample in the roots zone. Take at least 10 samples from the area. Combine these samples in a clean bucket and mix them together. After mixing the samples together, select about a pint of soil and place it in a zip top container and bring it into the Extension Office to be sent off for testing. If you are doing more than one area, make sure to label your samples. When you bring the samples into the office, you fill out a form that gives some background information about the garden plot, landscape bed or lawn to help with recommendations when the results come back. Once the office obtains the results, you will then receive the results with recommendations for your area.

Hornworms on Tomatoes

Hornworms are the largest larval insect commonly seen in the garden. Though usually seen on tomato, they can also attack eggplant, pepper, and potato.

The larval stage of this insect is a 3 ½- to 4-inch long pale green caterpillar with five pair of prolegs and a horn on the last segment. The two most common hornworms are the tobacco hornworm (seven diagonal white stripes and, most commonly, a red horn) and the tomato hornworm (v-shaped markings with a horn that is often blue or black).

The adult of the tobacco hornworm is the Carolina sphinx moth. The five-spotted hawk moth is the adult of the tomato hornworm. Both moths are stout-bodied, grayish-colored insects with a wing spread of 4 to 5 inches.

The larva is the damaging stage and feeds on the leaves and stems of the tomato plant, leaving behind dark green or black droppings. Though initially quite small with a body about the same size as its horn, these insects pass through four or five larval stages to reach full size in about a month. The coloration of this larva causes it to blend in with its surroundings and is often difficult to see despite its large size. It eventually will burrow into the soil to pupate. There are two generations a year.

This insect is parasitized by a number of insects. One of the most common is a small braconid wasp. Larva that hatch from wasp eggs laid on the hornworm feed on the inside of the hornworm until the wasp is ready to pupate. The cocoons appear as white projections protruding from the hornworm's body. If such projections are seen, leave the infected hornworms in the garden. The wasps will kill the hornworms when they emerge from the cocoons and will seek out other hornworms to parasitize.

Handpicking is an effective control in small gardens. Bt (Dipel, Thuricide), spinosad (Conserve; Borer, Bagworm, Leafminer & Tent Caterpillar Spray; Colorado Potato Beetle Beater Conc; Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew, Monterey Garden Insect Spray), cyfluthrin (Bayer Vegetable & Garden Insect Spray) and other insecticides may also be used to control hornworms.



Lyon County Extension Agent
Rhonda Gordon
620-341-3220
rgordon@ksu.edu



Family and Consumer Sciences

President's Council Dates Extension Office Meeting Room

11:30 a.m.
September 7, 2018
October 5, 2018
November 2, 2018

Fair Volunteers Needed

We have had several fair volunteers retire over the last few years. We need additional volunteers as generals and superintendents in the Open Class Division during the fair.



Unit Fall Gathering Wednesday September 19th 5 p.m.

We will have a fall all Unit Gathering at Gufler Mansion on Wednesday September 19th starting at 5 p.m. We will have a dinner and presentation by Susan Lane of Gufler Mansion. Cost is \$20.00 per person and reservations are due by Wednesday September 12th.

This is a time to get a new year started and renew old friendships, fellowship and nice evening out. See you all soon.

Fair Time News

Anderson Building Open Class and 4-H Superintendents meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 17th at 5:30 p.m. Plan on meeting at the Extension Office.

See you at the fair August 2nd to the 11th. Anderson Building will be open August 4th after 5 p.m. to August 8th at 9:30 p.m. Each unit member needs to have an entry so their unit gets 100 % participation.

Anderson Building Entries will be released on Thursday morning August 9th from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. Superintendents can get in building at 7:00 a.m.

Your Chance to Serve!!

If you are interested in serving or becoming more involved, please consider serving on the Extension Council. The Council is made of 24 members, six serving on one of four Program Development Committees (PDC): Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, 4-H Youth Development and Community Development. The Program Development Committees provide guidance for Extension programming for the county. **Please contact us by Friday, August 31, 2018 to let us know if you are interested in being placed on the ballot.**

Colored Canning Jars at the Fair

These are the recommendations put out from Karen Blakeslee at KSU. Don't use the colored canning jars for exhibits at the fair. The explanation follows.

As most of you know, the Ball Canning jars are now available in a wide variety of colors. While these are fun for people to use, I do not encourage them to be used for fair entries at the county/district fairs and at the State Fair. They should only use CLEAR canning jars for the fair.



Test Your Canner

I am sending off our Presto Test Kit to be checked. It is time for you to check your gauges. I hope to have our testing kit back by May 1. The brands of canners that can **ONLY** be tested with the Presto Testing Unit include National (those made by the National Pressure Cooker Company, au Claire, Wisconsin), Magic Seal (sold at Montgomery Ward), Maid of Honor (sold at Sears, Roebuck and Company), and Presto® Pressure Canners. I **CANNOT** test All American gauges or any other brands.

Eating Out by the Numbers

Beginning in May 2018, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is requiring certain restaurants to post calorie information on menus and menu boards. This applies to chain restaurants and retail food establishments with more than 20 locations.



These operations include:

- Foods served at sit-down and fast-food restaurants, bakeries, coffee shops and restaurant-

type foods in certain grocery and convenience stores.

- Take-out and delivery foods.
- Foods purchased at drive-through windows.
- Foods that you serve yourself from a salad or hot-food bar.
- Alcoholic drinks such as beer, wine and cocktails that appear on menus.
- Foods at places of entertainment, such as movie theaters or amusement parks.

Calorie information on menus and menu boards must be clearly displayed. For self-service foods, such as foods served at salad bars and buffets, the information must be clearly displayed so consumers can see it when they are serving themselves. Learn more at www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm423082.htm

Preserve Smart App

Preserve Smart App Colorado State University has developed a new food preservation app to help make canning a bit easier.

The app is called “Preserve Smart” and is currently available for Apple iOS devices only. But it can be used on any computer.

This program is unique in that it starts by asking you to enter your elevation. The program will remember that elevation throughout the system. So it will highlight the processing instructions for your location in each recipe. Also, the program has freezing and dehydrating instructions. There are recipes for canning fruits and vegetables, jams and jellies, pickles and fermentation.

The website address for this program is <https://apps.chhs.colostate.edu/preservesmart/>. Search the Apple app store for Preserve Smart to download it to your mobile Apple device.

Using Natural Pectin in Fruit Pie

Some fruit pie recipes need help to get the filling just right. One solution is to add a peeled, grated, and squeezed dry Granny Smith apple which is full of natural pectin. Apples contain high amounts of high-methoxyl pectin and makes a great gel. In

combination with two tablespoons of instant tapioca, the gel should have a pudding consistency. Crush some of the other fruit and combine with the grated apple. This helps release the natural pectin within the fruit cell walls to achieve a good gel.

Source: The Science of Good Cooking, Cook’s Illustrated

How to make Cherry Raisins

How to make Cherry Raisins Wash and pit pie cherries. Heat 2 cups of cherries and 1/2 cup of sugar until the liquid boils for 1 minute. (Cherry-sugar mixture will form own juice.) With a slotted spoon, transfer cherries to a dehydrator. Dry at 140-150°F until moisture decreases to 80% solids. Cherries will be firm and rubbery to the touch. For best results, base the drying on the final solids content of 80%. Freeze or vacuum package to avoid mold growth.

To calculate desired final cherry weight for 80% solids:

1. Weigh a container for fresh and dried cherries on a scale. Note weight.
2. Add fresh cherries to the container. Weigh. Subtract container weight.
3. Calculate desired final weight. (Fresh cherry weight) times (.175) = desired weight of dried cherries.
4. Add calculated desired final weight (#3 above) and weight of container (#1). When dried cherries reach this point, they are ready.



Beyond the Trash Can

Photo: USDA

Think twice before tossing that unfinished meal or imperfect food.

Each day, U.S. consumers toss about one pound of food. That is equivalent to one-third of the daily calories each person eats. Some of the healthiest foods that are wasted are fruits and vegetables and mixed fruit and vegetable dishes followed by dairy and meat and mixed-meat dishes.

Food waste happens in many other points of the food chain besides at home. When foods are wasted, losses are also felt in the environment, farmers time, land and other resources used to grow and raise food.

Source: www.ars.usda.gov/news-events/news/research-news/2018/food-waste-resonates-beyond-the-trash-bin/

Lyon County

2632 West Highway 50
Emporia, KS 66801

Return Service Requested

June

- 02 Camp Counselors to 4-H Camp
- 03-06 Sunny Hills 4-H Camp, Rock Springs
- 04 Master Gardener Meeting, Noon, EMR
- 04 Ambassador Meeting, 6 p.m., EMR
- 04 Dog Project Meeting, 7 p.m., AB
- 04 4-H Council, 7 p.m., EMR
- 12 SE Area Horticulture, Crops, Photography & Favorite Foods Contest, AB
- 14 Veggie Issues, 6:30 p.m., EMR
- 15 KSF & KJLS all livestock nominations due
- 16 Master Gardener Garden Tour, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- 17 Poultry Club Meeting, 1 p.m., EMR
- 17 Hop To It Rabbit Club, 2 p.m., EMR
- 19 4-H Day Camp, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., AB
- 19 Cloverbuds, 6 p.m., AB
- 21 SE Livestock Judging Contest, Yates Center
- 24 Wildflower & Pasture Tour, Chase & Butler County
- 26-29 Campference, Rock Springs
- 30 Lyon County Open Youth Rodeo, 4 p.m., Fairgrounds

AB = Anderson Building
BCB = Bowyer Community Building
EG = Extension Garage
EMR = Extension Meeting

July

- 01 ALL LYON COUNTY FAIR 4-H PRE-ENTRIES DUE
- 01 Lyon County Open Horse Show, 9 a.m., Fairgrounds
- 02 Ambassador Meeting, 6 p.m., EMR
- 02 Dog Project Meeting, 7 p.m., AB
- 02 4-H Council, 7 p.m., EMR
- 04 Independence Day – Office Closed
- 09 Master Gardener Meeting, 5:15 p.m., AB
- 09 Soil Health Workshop, Iola
- 10 4-H District Horse Show, Lawrence
- 15 Poultry Club, 1 p.m., EMR
- 15 Hop To It Rabbit Club, 2 p.m., EMR
- 17 Open Class & 4-H Superintendents Meeting, 5:30 p.m., EMR
- 26 Friends of 4-H Picnic, 6:30 p.m., AB
- 27 4-H Dog Show, 6 p.m., AB
- 28 Clothing Construction/Buymanship judging, 8 a.m., AB
- 28 Photography, Home Environment, Rocketry, Forestry, Entomology, Reading, Geology, Leadership, Other Projects, Electrical & Fiber Arts Judging, 1:30 p.m., AB
- 28 Public Fashion Revue, 6 p.m., AB
- 29 4-H Horse Show, 8 a.m., Arena
- 29 4-H Hand Pets/Cat Show, 11 a.m., AB

8/2 – 8/11 – Lyon County Fair
See 4-H Section for Fair Schedule