



CALDWELL COUNTY

AG PRIDE

2024/2025

Shane Bogle

Cooperative Extension Service
Caldwell County
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Shane M. Bogle
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Dates to Remember



KCA Convention

Jan 16-17, 2025
Owensboro, KY

Equines and Endophyte Workshop

January 29
Lexington, KY

UK Winter Wheat Meeting

February 4, 2025
9:00 am Hopkinsville

KY Crop Health Conference

February 6, 2025
Bowling Green, KY

Caldwell/Lyon/Trigg Tobacco Meeting

February 10, 2025
Lee Jones Park Eddyville

KY Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference

February 25, 2025
Lexington, KY

Quote of the day

"A good Farmer is nothing less than a handy man with a sense of humor."

CAIP and Youth Ag Incentive is here!

See page 2

Forage Timely Tips: December

- **Begin utilizing stockpiled pastures. Graze pastures with orchardgrass and clovers first. Save tall fescue pastures for late winter grazing.**
- **Using polywire, strip graze stockpiled pastures to improve Utilization. Start at the water source and allocate enough forage to for 2-3 days. Back fencing is not necessary since pastures are not regrowing this time of the year.**
- **Make plans to frost seed red and white clover onto closely grazed tall fescue pastures in February. Seed supplies of improved varieties may be tight.**
- **Begin hay feeding as stockpiled forage is used up.**
- **Supplement hay with commodity feeds as needed.**
- **Minimize waste by utilizing ring feeders.**



MONEY FOR FARM IMPROVEMENTS



KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Eligible Investment Areas:

*Agricultural Diversification
AgTech & Leadership Development
Large Animal - Small Animal
Farm Infrastructure
Fencing & On-Farm Water
Forage & Grain Improvement
Innovative Ag. Systems
On-Farm Energy
Poultry & Other Fowl
Value Added & Marketing*

Administered by
Caldwell/Lyon Cattlemen's Association

1025 US HWY 62 West
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(270) 365-2787

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CAIP)

Applications are available for Caldwell County CAIP to assist farmers in making important farm investments.

Application Period:

December 30 through January 10, 2025

No applications will be accepted after Jan 10 at 4:30 pm. Information Meetings Dec 16 or 17 at 6:00 pm at the Caldwell County Extension Office

Application Availability:

**Caldwell County Extension Office
Monday – Friday (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) or in a drop box outside during Christmas break**

For More Information:

Contact Alana George at (270) 498-0096 or email alana.george@myyahoo.com

All applications are scored, based on the scoring criteria set by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.

MONEY FOR FARM IMPROVEMENTS



KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Eligible Investment Areas:

Investment areas include: Agricultural diversification (horticulture, hydroponics) large animals, small animals, farm infrastructure, fencing & on-farm water, forage & grain improvement, poultry & other fowl, value-added & marketing, supervised agriculture experience (approved by FFA teacher) and country ham project. Other agriculture and horticulture projects will be considered.

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Youth Agriculture Incentive Program

Applications are available for Caldwell County Youth (YAIP) to assist 9–18-year-olds in making important farm investments.

Application Period:

December 30 through January 10, 2025

No applications will be accepted after Jan 10, at 4:30 pm. Information Meetings Dec 16 or 17 at 6:00 pm at the Caldwell County Extension Office

Application Availability:

**Caldwell County Extension Office
Monday – Friday (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) or in a drop box outside during Christmas break**

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Getting the Most Out of Your Stockpiled Grass

Dr. Chris Teutsch, UK Research and Education Center, Princeton

Stockpiling tall fescue is the most economical way to feed cows during the winter months. Once stockpiled growth has accumulated, how you choose to utilize it can dramatically impact how many grazing days you get per acre. Research in Missouri showed that giving cows access to only enough forage for 3-days versus 14-days resulted in a 40% increase in grazing days per acre. The following tips will help to get the most out of your stockpiled forages.

Graze pastures that contain warm-season grasses first. Although we often like to think of pastures as monocultures, they are often complex mixtures of cool- and warm-season grasses, legumes and weedy forbs. If pastures contain warm-season grasses, use these first since their quality will decline rapidly as we move into winter.

Graze pastures containing clover next. We are always happy to see clover in pastures. However, in a stockpiling scenario it does not hold up to freezing and thawing as well as tall fescue. So graze grass-cloves mixtures before pure stands of tall fescue.

Save pastures with primarily tall fescue for later grazing. Tall fescue is by the best grass for stockpiling in terms of maintaining its nutritive value as you head into winter. So graze pure stands last.

Strip graze tall fescue. At this point in time, strip grazing is probably the most important tool that you have for extending grazing. As mentioned above, limiting access to stockpiled forage can significantly increase grazing days per acre. Strip grazing usually starts at the water source and then uses a single strand of electrified polywire to allocate only enough forage for the predetermined time period. It could be 1, 2, 3, or more days. The shorter the time period the better utilization you will get. Since pastures are not actively growing during the winter months, you can start at your water source and no back fencing is needed.

[Bonus Tip: When strip grazing, never take your forward fence down until the back fence \(new one\) is up. If you do, the cows will be on the other side of the pasture!](#)

You will need the following items to strip graze with:

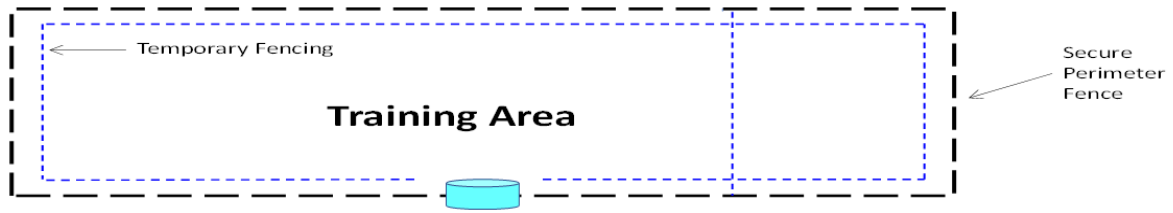
- Two reels with polywire with dual purpose handles.
- Temporary fence posts, one every 25 or 30 feet depending on the terrain.
- A small solar charger if you do not have ready access to an existing electric.
- A temporary grounding rod for the solar charger.
- A good fault finder to check your voltage.
- Cattle trained to electric fence! If your cattle are not used to electric fencing and polywire, it is essential to train them prior to strip grazing.



Figure 1. Strip grazing stockpiled grass can extend grazing by as much as 40%.

Training Animals to Electric Fencing

- Expose animals in a secured area
- Setup temporary fence around perimeter
- First experience should be safe, but memorable
- Usually trained in 1 to 2 days



To many producers that have not stripped grazed, the idea of moving a temporary fence two or three times a week or even once a week can seem overwhelming. However, once you are set up it really goes pretty fast and the pay back is huge—a free day of feed every time you move the fence. Is it less work than feeding hay? Probably not less, but just different and the pay back is much better!

Stretch pasture with hay. In most cases, stockpiled pastures will be higher in forage quality than most of the hay that we make. Feeding some hay while grazing stockpiled pasture can help stretch your remaining pasture and at the same time the stockpiled or winter annual pasture can act as a supplement for the lower quality hay.

The last thing that I want to mention about utilizing strip grazing is that how often you move the fence needs to fit your schedule. Many producers work off the farm and it is dark when they leave and dark when they get home. So, for them it makes sense to move the fence once a week on Saturdays or Sundays. It is important to remember that grazing systems need to benefit not only the pasture and cows, but also you!

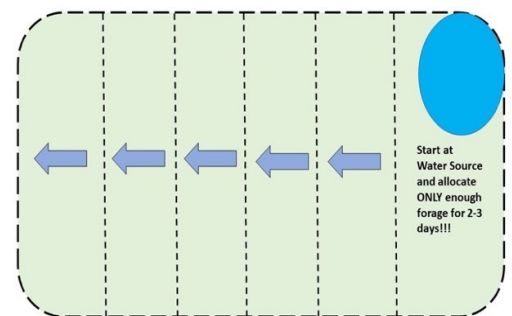


Figure 2. Strip grazing stockpiled grass is accomplished by starting at the water source and allocating only enough pasture for 2 to 3 days of grazing using temporary electric fencing.

Winter Annuals and Winter Feeding Field Day

**Dr. Chris Teutsch, Dr. Katie VanValin,
UK Research and Education Center, Princeton**

We will have a short winter-feeding program on Saturday December 14 from 10 am to 12 pm at UK Research and Education Center in Princeton. The program will feature various winter annuals including oats, wheat, cereal rye, barley, triticale, and annual ryegrass all mixed with a hybrid rape and berseem and crimson clovers. We will also look at a stockpiling study that is evaluating several nitrogen sources and rates. We will wrap the day looking at the “Purple” Cattle Systems Hay Feeder.

WINTER ANNUALS AND WINTER FEEDING FIELD DAY

Saturday, December 14, 2024
University of Kentucky Research and Education Center
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
348 University Drive, Princeton, KY 42445

Topics include:

- Winter hay feeding strategies
 - Bale grazing
 - Strip grazing stockpile
 - Hay feeders
- Simplifying winter nutrition
- Stockpiling fescue
- Frost seeding
- Planting and grazing winter annuals
- FREE LUNCH included!

This event is FREE to attend. Please register for a headcount for FREE lunch.

*Please follow signage once arriving at the Research & Education Center

Tickets can be found at <https://2024winterfeeding.eventbrite.com>

Logos for Kentucky State University, KADF, and K&E are visible.