K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION

WALNUT CREEK EXTENSION DISTRICT

SEPTEMBER 2023

Teachers: As you prepare for your school year, don't forget to contact the Walnut Creek Extension District Agents to schedule a visit to your classroom. We would love to share our knowledge and resources with you and your students. Possible topics include: Health and Nutrition, Animal Science, Life Skills, Crops and more!

The 64th annual Extension **Fall Ag Tour** is scheduled for October 17-19, 2023 to the Fort Collins, Colorado area. An initial letter was sent to past participants on August 30th. If you are interested but did not receive the introductory information, please call the LaCrosse office and share your email or physical address and we will send some information to you

This monthly newsletter is intended to inform the citizens of Walnut Creek Extension District of research-based information from K-State Research and Extension. If you have questions, please contact our agents at one of the Extension Offices listed.

www.walnutcreek.ksu.edu

Walnut Creek District Offices

LANE COUNTY OFFICE
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P O BOX 487
DIGHTON, KS 67839
620-397-2806

- Lacey Noterman, Director and Agriculture Ext. Agent - lnote@ksu.edu
- Chelsey Shapland, 4-H Program Assistant - cshapland@ksu.edu
- Donnis Maughlin, Office Professional - dmaughli@ksu.edu

NESS COUNTY OFFICE
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NESS CITY, KS 67560
785-798-3921

- Robyn Trussel, 4-H and Youth Agent rdeines@ksu.edu
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RUSH COUNTY OFFICE
702 MAIN, P O BOX 70
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785-222-2710

- Jared Petersilie, Agriculture Extension Agent - jaredp11@ksu.edu
- Berny Unruh, Office Professional bunruh@ksu.edu

Fall Tree Planting

Lacey Noterman

District Director
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Fall can be an excellent time to plant trees. The warm and moist soils normally associated with fall encourage root growth. Fall root growth means the tree becomes established months before a spring-planted tree and is able to withstand the summer stresses. The best time to plant trees in the fall is early September to late October. This gives the tree plenty of time to get the roots established before the ground freezes.

Certain trees unfortunately do not produce significant root growth during the fall and are better planted in the spring. These include beech, birch, redbud, magnolia, tulip poplar, willow oak, scarlet oak, black oak, willows and dogwood.

Fall-planted trees require some special care. Remember, the roots are actively growing even though the top is dormant. Be sure to keep the soil moist but not soggy. This will require watering not only in the fall but also during the winter. Mulching is helpful because it minimizes moisture loss and slows the cooling of the soil so root growth continues as long as possible.

Plant your Cool Season Lawns NOW

During the fall, be sure to plant or overseed your cool season lawns. With soil still warm in September, and the days are getting mild, this part of the growing season boasts the perfect growing conditions for cool season grasses like bluegrass, fescue, and ryegrass to get established.

Be sure to keep adequate soil moisture on grass as it starts to grow. Watering a newly planted lawn frequently and lightly will be the most beneficial for grass during its early growing stages. On hot days, a new lawn may need watered as many as three times a day, keeping the soil consistently moist but not waterlogged. Cooler time spans will then require less watering, sometimes spaced out between a matter of every couple of days.

Herbicide Applications and High Temperatures

Summer temperatures are still upon us, with high temperatures over 100 degrees in parts of Kansas. If you are planning herbicide applications, here are some things to consider when applying herbicides during the hot weather.
https://eupdate.agronomy.ksu.edu/article_new/herbicide-applications-and-high-temperatures-499-2

Market Wheat Show Results

The results from the Market Wheat Show held at each of the county fairs can be found here:
https://www.walnutcreek.k-state.edu/docs/newsletters/2023%20Market%20Wheat%20Show%20Results.pdf

Wheat Demonstration Plot Results

K-STATE Research and Extension

District or County:	Walnut Creek District - Rush County
Cooperator Name:	Mark Baus
Agent:	Lacey Noterman, 785-798-3921
Location:	Southwest part of Rush County
Date Planted:	10/12/2022
Date Harvested:	6/28/2023

Management Practices:
80 actual lbs. of N in urea applied in winter
35 lbs. 40 Rock Fertilizer
0.3 oz of Ally Extra Herbicide
1/5 lb of 2,4-D applied April 1st

Variety	Source	Plot Width	Plot Length	Plot Weight	Grain Moisture	Test Weight	Protein	Yield	Yield
		ft	*ft*	*lbs*	*%*	*lb/bu*	*%*	*bu/ac*	*% of Avg*
LCS Chrome	LIMAGRAIN	8.33	98.11	76	10.5	61	13.4	69.5	96%
AP Prolific	AGRIPRO	8.33	98.11	81	10.6	59.9	13.5	73.9	103%
SY Wolverine	AGRIPRO	8.33	98.11	52	10.6	60.3	13.7	47.5	66%
AP Bigfoot	AGRIPRO	8.33	98.11	74	10.7	60.5	13.7	67.5	94%
KS Providence	KWA	8.33	98.11	72	10.6	60	13.7	65.7	91%
Zenda	KWA	8.33	98.11	76	10.6	60	13.7	69.4	96%
Hatchet	KWA	8.33	98.11	68	10.5	60.4	13.5	62.1	86%
KS Dallas	KWA	8.33	98.11	72	10.3	60.5	13.8	65.9	91%
LCS Chrome	LCS	8.33	98.11	93	10.6	60.5	13.9	84.9	118%
Rockstar	INTERGRAIN	8.33	98.11	72	10.4	59.7	13.6	65.9	91%
KS Hamilton	KWA	8.33	98.11	80	10.4	59.7	13.4	73.2	102%
KS Western Star	KWA	8.33	98.11	94	10.5	60.6	13.3	85.9	119%
WB Grainfield	WESTBRED	8.33	98.11	88	10.6	61.4	13.1	80.3	111%
WB 4422	WESTBRED	8.33	98.11	83	10.5	60.8	13.5	75.9	105%
WB 4401	WESTBRED	8.33	98.11	78	10.5	61.4	13.5	71.3	99%
LCS Steel AX	LCS	8.33	98.11	94	10.4	59.7	13	86.0	119%
LCS Atomic AX	LCS	8.33	98.11	84	10.4	61.4	13.3	76.9	107%
LCS Chrome	LCS	8.33	98.11	83	10.6	60.7	14.1	75.8	105%
Plot Average					**10.5**	**60.5**	**13.5**	**72.1**	

Note: These data are from an unreplicated demonstration plot and should not be used alone to make variety selection decisions. For additional data see results from the K-State wheat variety performance testing program at http://www.agronomy.k-state.edu/services/crop-performance-tests/

Wheat Plot Results from Rush County

Jared Petersilie

Extension Agent
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How to Test Feed

How to feed test: The first rule to remember in sampling feeds for testing is to take a representative sample. If you only sample bales from the good side of the field, then you will have a report for only good hay.

If the swather ran on the contour or with the terraces, the resulting bales are from tall feed in the draws vs. short feed on the uplands, then getting separate samples/tests may prove valuable-especially if nitrates are in question. If this is the case then the bales need to be stacked to keep them separate.

The second rule is to make sure you get the representative sample into the sample bag/container. Currently we are looking at bales, but soon we will also be analyzing silage. Waiting a few weeks before sampling the bunkers or piles will give much better results (after ensiling).

Have the right tools: A coring probe will provide a more accurate sample than a "hand-grab" sample. Probes are available for check out at our district offices. Probes are designed in many forms, but mainly the tips vary, but regardless of probe, we need bales probed on the ROUND side. Coring into the round side gets a cross section of material that has been baled up.

- How many to sample: Sampling every bale is best but not practical. Class the feeds according to type, cutting, field and sample (for example, first-cut alfalfa hay, south field). Then core representative bales and empty the samples into the CLEAN sample container. Core at least 5% of the bales, but 10% would be better. Hand-grab samples will not be representative. Once the samples are collected, mix them and then fill the bag for the laboratory.
- Send the feed to a feed testing laboratory: I keep feed sample bags from Servi Tech (Dodge City), SDK (Hutchinson) and MidWest (Nebraska locations). All labs will give us adequate results, but the way each lab works or the chemistry they use will differ. Samples can be sent via the mail-we have labels to adhere to the envelope. Samples can also 'find a ride' to ServiTech. It will save shipping costs, but it takes longer to get them there and ultimately the results back.
- What to test for: Feeds can be tested for many things. Most producers want to know the Nitrogen levels as they know there can be toxic levels. If you are already testing, then run the sample for a general or forage test as well. The added cost pales in comparison to the time spent coring and the shipping costs. This will tell us protein, moisture, energy, and Total Digestible Nutrients-'TDN' as well as other items such as NDF, ADF, and specific elements to be determined. We will be able to use these numbers to balance a ration or identify deficiencies later this winter. Some feed we have grown this year is 'good enough', meaning it will sustain the needs of a dry cow without additional protein.Others will need to add energy (i.e. starch from grain) and all will still need some form of trace minerals.

When hauling or stacking the bales, rows that are North to South will dry out faster. It takes time, but bales that are stacked on something (pallets, tires, old posts, rock, etc) will keep the bottoms dry and the life of the bale will last longer, especially with net wrap. Bales that are stacked flat end to flat end will also shed water or snow better than those that have round ends touching. If you are feeding with a bale bed its convenient for grabbing and going, but if the bales are going to set for any length of time, stacking them to the flat side will make them last longer and that might prove to be important this year.

Back to School

End of the 4-H Year, Beginning the New 4-H Year

End of the 4-H Year

The end of another 4-H year is upon us, with that comes 4-H Record keeping, Kansas State Fair and planning 4-H Achievement Banquets.

Record books are due September 27th by noon. If you need any help or have questions, I am willing to schedule time to work with your family. You will want to turn in Record Keeping for the projects you want to be recognized in, along with Award Applications.
Award Applications include Achievement level pins, Outstanding Girl/Boy in LE/NS, Ag Tour (the new Denver Trip) for Freshman and older, Scholarship applications in RH and Gold Watch Awards nominations in RH.
Club Leaders will want to focus on Club Seal Applications and turning in your Secretary, Reporter and Treasurer books.

The 4-H Online system will shut-down on September 21st and not open back up until October 1st to prepare for the Enrollment changes that are taking place for the 2023-24 4-H Year.
You will notice some changes in project names in the clothing and STEM areas. Otherwise enrollment should be as it was in the past. A new Project Guide is soon to be released.

Achievement Banquets

Rush - October 22
Ness - October 29
Lane - November 5

Kansas State Fair

The Kansas State Fair is September 8-17, 2023 in Hutchinson Kansas.

We have several youth from each county that are exhibiting, we wish them GOOD LUCK and hope they do well.

Time to Join 4-H

For more than 100 years, Kansas 4-H has been committed to providing positive youth development educational experiences to young people across Kansas. We are committed to teaching life skills so all youth can reach their full potential.

From hands-on exploration to project based skill building, young people thrive through 4-H participation, finding their way to success in life and career opportunities. Here are the Kansas 4-H Projects:

Pets
Beef
Horse
Swine
Sheep
Poultry
Rabbits
Reading
Geology
Rocketry
Robotics
Fiber Arts
Astronomy
Meat Goats
Leadership
Visual Arts
Entomology
Photography
Plant Science
Architectural Block Construction
Uncrewed Aerial Systems
Environmental Sciences
Electricity/Electronics
Wildlife/Sport fishing
Dog Care & Training
Dairy Cattle/Goats
Veterinary Science
Sewing & Textiles
Civic Engagement
Health & Wellness
Foods & Nutrition
Computer Science
Communications
Performing Arts
Shooting Sports
Ag Mechanics
Woodworking
Small Engines

4-H is Great – 4-H is Fun.

Join the 4-H youth and dedicated volunteers and get involved. There are so many things that you can learn in 4-H, and the best part is you learn by doing.
4-H + Active Participation = Fun + Learning

4-H Membership is for youth 7-18, with a Cloverbud program available for 5 and 6 year old youth.

4-H Teaches Responsibility
4-H Builds Good Character
4-H Generates Curiosity
4-H Grows Friendships
4-H Helps Create Leaders

For more information about joining 4-H email rdeines@ksu.edu or call the local Extension Office
Lane: 620-397-2806
Ness: 785-798-5020
Rush: 785-222-2710

"4-H gave me skills that will last forever, gave me confidence in myself, public speaking skills, gave me leadership skills, and it gave me the ability to network and make connections from surrounding areas and states." ~ Clade

What YOU can do in 4-H

You can be in a club that meets once a month.
You can be part of a special interest group that learns about a special topic,
or you can be part of a program after school.
You can go to camps or travel to other counties or states or maybe even a foreign country!
You can do fun stuff that your whole family can participate in.
You can work on service projects that make things better for your community.
You can even earn scholarships for college.
But most of all, you'll make friends and have loads of fun!

How do you join 4-H?

Call your local county K-State Research and Extension office. They can tell you what to do. The New year starts October 1st and runs through September 30th.

How much does it cost?

The Membership fee is $15 per member per year. This fee may be covered by a local sponsor. The amount of money you spend is based on the projects you choose and how involved your family wants to be. Some projects might cost something to get started—like, if you want to do photography, you'll need a camera and money to get pictures developed.

Does it matter where you live?

4-H has things everybody can do, in the city or the country or anywhere in between. You can find 4-H in every county in Kansas!

How old do you have to be?

4-H is for kids of almost any age. If you're 5-6 years of age you can be in Cloverbuds. From age 7 to age 18, you can be in 4-H.

What about your parents or guardians?

Your parents don't have to become 4-H leaders when you join 4-H, but there are lots of ways they can help. They can lead special projects, drive 4-H'ers to activities, make refreshments for meetings, and much more! In fact, your whole family can be part of a lot of 4-H activities!

Who are 4-H volunteers?

4-H volunteers are people who care about kids and who supervise activities. They are carefully screened and trained to make sure that 4-H'ers are safe.

Who sponsors 4-H?

4-H is provided by K-State Research and Extension, working with Kansas State University and your federal, state, and county governments, along with the Kansas 4-H Foundation and our local Walnut Creek Extension Board

Back to School Routine

Whether your summer was jam-packed with activities or filled with complaints about being bored with nothing to do, kids often have a tough time making the back-to-school transition. Here are some tips for Getting Kids back into a school routine, plus help for parents to adjust their schedule as well and make the transition positive for the whole family.

Kids can be nervous about the new year, talking to them about their concerns can help to calm the nerves. Focus on the positive things about going back to school, such as hanging out with old friends, meeting new classmates, buying cool school supplies, getting involved in sports and other activities, and showing off their new clothes.

To help ease back-to-school butterflies, try to ease kids into a consistent school-night routine. Also make sure that they:

- get enough sleep, set a reasonable bedtime so that they'll be rested and ready to learn in the morning
- eat a healthy breakfast, they're more alert and do better in school if they eat a good breakfast every day
- write down the need-to-know info to help them remember details such as their locker combination, what time classes and lunch start and end, their homeroom and classroom numbers, teachers' and bus drivers' names, just to name a few.
- use a wall calendar or personal planner to record when assignments are due, tests will be given, extracurricular practices and rehearsals will be held, this will help them plan ahead.
- have them organize and set out what they need the night before, homework and books should be put in their backpacks by the door and clothes should be laid out in their bedrooms.

What About After School?

Figuring out where kids will go after school can be a challenge, especially if both parents work. Depending on a child's age and maturity, you may need to arrange for after-school transportation and care.

It's important for younger kids and preteens to have some sort of supervision from a responsible adult. If you can't be there as soon as school's out, ask a reliable, responsible relative, friend, or neighbor to help out. If they're to be picked up after school, make sure your kids know where to meet you or another caregiver.

Although it might seem like kids who are approaching adolescence are becoming mature enough to start watching themselves after school, even kids as old as 11 or 12 may not be ready to be left alone. If your kids or teens are home alone in the afternoons, it's important to establish clear rules:

- Set a time when they're expected to arrive home from school.
- Have them check in with you or a neighbor as soon as they get home.
- Specify who, if anyone at all, is allowed in your home when you're not there.
- Make sure they know to never open the door for strangers.

Make sure they know what to do in an emergency.

To ensure that kids are safe and entertained after school, look into after-school programs. For more information on after school programs ask the school or check with the Local Extension Office.