

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

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Before I begin this month's article, I wanted to inform you about some upcoming events. First, the Nineteenth East Kentucky Replacement Bred Heifer Sale will be held on **Saturday, September 16, 2017** at the Lee City Stockyard. The sale will begin at 1:00pm with heifer inspection beginning at 12:00noon. Lee City Stockyard is located on Rt. 205 just off the Mountain Parkway in Wolfe County. There will be around 110 bred heifers offered for sale. For more information about this sale

you can contact me at the Perry County Extension Office. All the data on the heifers can be viewed by going to the Perry County web page at <http://ces.ca.uky.edu/perry> and clicking on the Agriculture Natural Resources link. See enclosed flyer.



The next meeting of the Perry County Beekeepers Association will be on **Tuesday, October 17, 2017**. It will be held at the Perry County Extension Office and will begin at 6:00P.M. The speaker for the evening will be Mr. Jim Coss, owner of the Honey and Bee Connection in Morehead. This association is open to anyone. You do not have to be a beekeeper to attend the meetings.

The date for the annual East Kentucky Winter Bee School will be **Saturday, January 20, 2018**. The school will be held at the Hazard Community and Technical College First Federal Center Building. I will have more information in later newsletters.



The Perry County Farmer's Market is hosting some special events. Story time on Saturdays at 10:00A.M. and September 30th will be Youth Vendor Day at the market. Saturday, October 7th will be Arts and Craft day at the Market. RSVP to Emily Whitaker at (571) 217-5913. \$5.00 per vendor or free to the Art of the Mountain members. The Market will be open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 7:00A.M. to Noon. The last day of the Market is October 28th.



This summer has been rough on our lawns. If the rain and heat have taken a toll on your lawn, September is an excellent time to renovate or re-seed it. October 1st is about as late as you want to wait.

It is a good idea to lightly till, disc or use a dethatching machine or dethatching rake to the lawn before seeding for better seed to ground contact. The best choice for reseeding would be using a slit-seeder, if you have access to one. These machines

actually plant the grass seed to the recommended depth for you. Before renovating or seeding, it would be good to have the soil tested, especially if you haven't had your soil tested in a couple of years. A soil test will determine how much fertilizer and lime is needed. The Perry County Extension Office sponsors free soil testing during the months of March, September and October of each year.

The fall is the best time to fertilize lawns in Kentucky. Fall fertilization is usually done in October or November, however if your lawn needs lime, it's a good idea to get it on as early as possible.

As far as selecting a grass to seed, this becomes an individual preference. It also depends on how much maintenance and work you're prepared to do. Bluegrass lawns take a great deal of maintenance and establish slowly. They also need irrigated in the summer. My personal preference is a Tall Fescue variety. Tall Fescue lawns usually need very little maintenance and stand up well under heavy traffic and are somewhat drought tolerant. The newer Tall Fescue varieties that are out resemble Bluegrass in texture. If your lawn is shaded, you will need to select a shade tolerant variety, such as perennial ryegrass.



Tall Fescue varieties need to be seeded at a rate of 6 pounds of grass seed per 1000 square feet of lawn.

If broadleaf weeds are a problem in the lawn, October to early November is a good time to get control. Most broadleaf weeds can be controlled using 2,4-D or Bavel or a combination of the two. If you have re-seeded your lawn you need to wait at least two weeks after the seeds have germinated before spraying for weeds.

I have publications on renovating lawns, selecting the right kind of grass and weed control. If you would like one of these publications, give me a call at the Perry County Cooperative Extension Office.