

Charles May: Agent

email: cmay@uky.edu

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**Cooperative
Extension Service**
Perry County
933 Perry Park Road
Hazard, KY 41701
(606) 436-2044
Fax: (606) 436-9961
www.ca.uky.edu/ces



I have already placed orders for apple and pear rootstock. I did order extra. If you didn't order any and want some, give me call. These will go on a first come first serve basis. Cost is \$1.00 ea. for both.

We will be conducting a Vegetable Production Workshop on **Wednesday, March 8, 2017**. The workshop will begin at 10:00A.M. and will be held at the Perry County Extension Office. Dr. Shawn Wright, UK Extension Horticulture Specialist, will conduct the workshop.

The Perry County Conservation District is helping to sponsor the workshop and will give each participant a packet of Sweet Corn and Bean seed. The workshop is free, however seating is limited and pre-registration is required. Please register before **Wednesday, March 1, 2017** by calling the Perry County Extension Service at 436-2044. A flyer has been posted on the Perry County webpage under the Ag and Natural Resource link.

We will also be conducting a fruit disease and insect control workshop on **Thursday, April 20, 2017** at the Perry County Extension Office. The workshop will begin at 10:00 a.m. Dr. Nicole Ward Gauthier, UK Horticulture Plant Pathologist and Dr. Ricardo Bessin, UK Extension



Entomology Specialist will be conducting the workshop. The Perry County Conservation District is also helping to sponsor this workshop and will be giving two apple trees to each participant. Pre-registration is also required for this workshop. Please register before **Thursday, April 13, 2017** by calling the Perry County Extension Office. A flyer has been posted on the Perry County webpage under the Ag and Natural Resource link.

Don't forget that the Perry County Extension Service is taking orders again this year for Blackberry, Raspberry, Strawberry, Blueberry, Asparagus and Candy Onions. The prices are the same as last year, which is \$3.00 ea. for Blackberry, \$2.00 ea. for Raspberry, \$3.00 ea. for Black Raspberry, \$6.00 ea. for Blueberry \$3.23 per bundle of 25 plants for Strawberry, \$1.00 ea. for Asparagus and \$4.00 for 60 of the onion sets. See enclosed order form. I have also attached an order form to the Perry County web page at <http://ces.ca.uky.edu/perry> click on Ag and Natural Resources link.

With the arrival of February means spring is just around the corner and its' time to start getting ready for this years' growing season. Even though it is still cold outside, there are some chores that need to be done outside this month.

First, February is the best time to fertilize your fruit plantings. Fertilize cherry, pear, apple, peach, plum, blackberry, raspberry and blueberries this month. Cherry, peach and plum trees need 1/6 pound of ammonium nitrate per tree per year of age. Pear trees need 1/8 pound of



ammonium nitrate per tree per year of age. Apple trees need ¼ pound of ammonium nitrate per tree per year of age. It is best to apply the ammonium nitrate by spreading it around the drip line of the tree. The drip line of the tree is the area underneath the canopy of the tree. Do not exceed 3 pounds of ammonium nitrate per tree per season regardless of age. Blackberries and raspberries need 2 to 4 pounds of ammonium nitrate per 100 feet of row. Blueberries need fertilized at bloom and six weeks after bloom. Use 1 tenth pound of ammonium sulfate fertilizer

per plant at each time. Ammonium sulfate helps to maintain an acid PH which blueberries need. For a complete list of fertilizer requirements for home fruit plantings, contact the Perry County Extension Office and ask for publication H0-42.

If you haven't applied a complete fertilizer to your plantings in a while, it may be good to have your soil tested this season. The Perry County Cooperative Extension Service will be offering free soil testing during the entire month of March.



February is an excellent time to apply miscible oil (dormant oil) to deciduous trees and shrubs. This oil will kill over wintering mites, aphids and scale. Spray the oil when temperatures are above 40 degrees F, but not within 24 hours of a freeze. Because the oil kills insects by suffocation, avoid spraying on windy days to ensure that all surfaces of the plant are covered.

Some pruning can be done in February. Grapes especially need to be pruned in February to avoid late season bleeding. For most fruit trees, it is best to wait as

late as possible and before dormancy break to prune.



You may have already begun receiving garden catalogs. These catalogs offer many choices and contain a wealth of information about varieties that will help prevent diseases caused by fungi, bacteria, viruses and nematodes. Most catalogs will state what to expect in disease resistance for each variety. Letters are often used as abbreviations in fine print. An example is tomato disease resistance where F is for Fusarium wilt, V for Verticillium wilt and N for root knot nematode. Using disease-resistant plants is the safest most reliable way to control garden disease. It doesn't matter if the pathogen populations are abundant, or conditions are ripe for disease development, because resistant varieties provide strong biological protection from disease. For a complete list of recommended garden varieties and garden

information, contact the Perry County Cooperative Extension Service and asked for Publication ID-128, Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky and ID-133, Vegetable Cultivars for Kentucky Gardens.



February through mid-April is the second best time to seed or reseed your lawn. If you don't plan on tilling the soil before seeding, which is the best method to get a good seed to soil contact, it may be best to seed in February. We call this method Frost Seeding. You seed while the ground is still frozen and the freezing and thawing helps to move the seed to the ground. Or you can seed ahead of a snow and let the melting snow carry the seed to the ground. You can also get the same results seeding on top of a snow but birds like this method too and some of your seed may be consumed. Be sure to use recommend Kentucky turf varieties. You can contact me at the Perry County Extension Office for a complete list.