

Warren County AG News and Update Winter/Spring 2021

UT-TSU Extension Warren County • hnokes@utk.edu • 931-473-8484 • warren.tennessee.edu • January 7, 2021

Happy New Year!!! I think as 2020 came to a close, we all took a sigh of relief and turned a hopeful and optimistic eye to 2021. From a personal perspective, the past year was the most challenging of my career. For over two decades I have thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship, gatherings, and meetings Extension is known for. However, in March of last year, all that came to a grinding halt. Words like virtual and Zoom became the norm. I must admit that it did get us through our fall meetings and will get us through the spring meetings of master beef, Middle TN Grain Conference, and others. Perhaps in the future we can get back to normal. Until that time, however; stay safe and healthy.

Middle Tennessee Grain Conference - The annual Middle Tennessee Grain Conference has merged with the West and East TN Grain Conferences to offer one great virtual event. The grain conference will be Thursday, Feb 4, 9 am until noon with additional prerecorded sessions that can be viewed at your convenience. The schedule and speakers for the conference is listed below:

8:45 Opening Comments
9:00-9:46 Management Thoughts on Palmer Amaranth and Grass Control Struggles in Xtend/ Enlist Soybean
Larry Steckel, Ph.D., Weed Specialist, UT Extension

9:46-10:00 Q & A; Sponsors' Information

10:00-10:46 Moving Farm Equipment Safely

Fred Whitford, Ph.D., Purdue Pesticide Programs, Purdue University

10:46-11:00 Q & A; Sponsors' Information

11:00-11:46 Weather Risks in Production Agriculture

Eric Snodgrass, Principal Atmospheric Scientist, Nutrient Ag Solutions

11:46-12:00 Q & A; Conclusion

Pre-recorded Sessions - Commercial Applicator, CCA, and Master Row Crop points will be available through May 2021

Outlook 2021—Have a Marketing Plan

Chris Narayanan, Farm Management Area Specialist, UT Extension

Poultry Litter...Coming to a Field Near You

Shawn Hawkins, Ph.D., Associate Professor, UT Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science

Fit Soybeans to your Field

Angela McClure, Ph.D., Corn and Soybean Specialist, UT Extension

Keeping Tennessee Farms in the Family for Future Generations

Ron Hanson, Ph.D., Harlan Agribusiness Professor Emeritus, University of Nebraska

It Won't Happen to Me: Farm and Equipment Safety

Brian Robinson, State Training Coordinator, Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads

Foliar Fungicides for Disease Control in Field Crops

Carl Bradley, Ph.D., Plant Pathologist, University of Kentucky Extension

Future of Pesticides

Tom Mueller, Ph.D., Professor, UT
Department of Plant Sciences

Please contact Heath Nokes at
hnokes@utk.edu or visit
www.utcrops.com for registration.

Master Gardener Class - This is one for all the green thumbs in the area. The master gardener class is a nine-session class covering everything from insect and disease control to vegetable gardening and lawn care. Cost for the course is \$80 which includes cost of the manual. The classes will begin at 6 pm each night and will be conducted virtually via Zoom. The schedule of the class is listed below:

Tuesday, Feb 2 – Soils

Heath Nokes, Extension Agent

Tuesday, Feb 9 – Sweet and Easy Fruits

Turner and Sons

Thursday, Feb 11 – Propagation

Dr. Anthony Witcher

Tuesday, Feb 16 - Bad Plants, Better

Solutions Lucas Holman Ext. Agent

Thursday, Feb 25 - Plant Diseases

Dr. Fulya Basal-Gurel

Tuesday, March 2 – Vegetable Gardening

Bruce Steelman Ext. Agent

Thursday, March 4 – Insect Control

Amy Dismukes, Nursery Specialist

Tuesday, March 9 - Woody Plant and Tree Planting and Care

Dr. Natalie Bumgarner

Thursday, March 11 – Lawn Care, Mr. Hank Patton

For registration information, please contact the Extension Office or e-mail
hnokes@utk.edu.

Attention all Sheep and Goat Producers-

The University of Tennessee Department of Animal Science is offering a state wide Master Small Ruminant Producer Class. In keeping with the “new normal” of virtual reality, all classes will be held via zoom. The classes will take place on Tuesday evenings beginning January 26th through March 30th 5:30 PM each night. The course will be ten sessions covering reproduction, nutrition, parasite management, health, and more. Program cost is \$110 and includes a sheep or goat manual, hat, farm sign, and other promotional materials.

Registration: <https://tiny.utk.edu/cleL5>

Online Payment: <https://tiny.utk.edu/rqyh6>

Both registration and payment must be completed at the above websites.

Spring Master Beef Class Offered- The University of Tennessee Department of Animal Science is again offering a virtual Master Beef Producer Program. Cost for the program is \$75 which covers access to all classes, cap and sign. To register please send check (please make checks payable to: **UT Extension Warren County**) along with a note containing your name, address, BQA # and email address to UT-TSU Extension, Warren County 201 Locust Street, Ste. 10 McMinnville.

Schedule Below:

Jan. 25- Weaning & Backgrounding Your Calf Crop Dr. Lawton Stewart Univ. of Georgia

Feb. 1 - Vaccines: Short- & Long-Term Considerations for Disease Management
Dr. Lew Strickland Univ. of Tennessee

Feb. 8 - Design Considerations for Cattle Farming Systems

Dr. Steve Higgins Univ. of Kentucky

Feb. 15 - Developing and Staying on a Grazing Management Plan

Dr. Katie Mason Univ. of Tennessee

Feb. 22 - Price Risk Management: What is it and How do I use it?

Dr. Josh Maples Mississippi State -

Dr. James Mitchell Univ. of Arkansas

March 1 - Sire Selection for Commercial Cow/Calf Producers

Dr. Troy Rowan Univ. of Tennessee

March 8 - Increasing Productivity: Finding Cows that Fit Your Environment

Dr. David Lalman Oklahoma State Univ.

March 15 - Pasture Weed Control: Short- & Long-Term Considerations

Dr. Neil Rhodes Univ. of Tennessee

March 22nd - Playing the Long Game with Reproductive Management

Dr. Justin Rhinehart Univ. of Tennessee

Classes 5:30 pm Monday evenings.

**All persons who have completed the Master Beef Producer Program prior to 2017 are required to recertify.*

NEW– Master Row Crop Producer- New

Beginning with the 2020 application period, the Tennessee Agriculture Enhancement Program began offering an increased costshare amount for row crop producers who complete the Master Row Crop Producer Program. Although the application period has passed, information can be found on the TAEP website at:

<https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/farms/taep.html> Completion of the program will enable row crop producers to receive 50% of \$10,000 maximum reimbursement instead of the standard 35% reimbursement.

The program will largely be online. Participants will be required to complete 12 hours of education covering a variety of subject matter. Programs such as the Middle Tennessee Grain Conference will count toward completion of the program. For more information please visit <https://masterrowcrop.tennessee.edu/>.

Cost for the program is \$100. For registration, please contact the Extension Office or hnokes@utk.edu.

Tennessee Ag Enhancement Program Info- Unfortunately, there is still confusion on the difference concerning University of Tennessee Master Beef Program and the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Tennessee Enhancement Program. The Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program (TAEP) established in 2005 provides costshare dollars to agricultural producers for making long-term

investments in Tennessee farms and communities. Participation allows producers to maximize farm profits, adapt to changing market situations, improve operation safety, increase farm efficiency, and make a positive economic impact. More than \$185 million has been invested in 62,942 producer projects from 2005 through 2019. **Each TAEP dollar generates \$6.09 in local economies.**

The annual application period in 2020 was October 1-7. **Programs include:** [Dairy Solutions](#), [Herd Health](#), [Genetics](#), [Row Crop Solutions](#), [Hay Storage](#), [Livestock Equipment](#), [Livestock Solutions](#), [Working Facility Structures](#), [Poultry Grower](#), and [Producer Diversification](#).

To participate in the Tennessee Agriculture Enhancement livestock programs, producers must have a current *Beef Quality Assurance* certification. Any producer that meets the minimum acreage and/or number of livestock and current BQA certification can apply and be eligible at 35% costshare. Producers can increase to 50% costshare reimbursement level by participating in a *Master Beef* program. And of course, you have to submit a TAEP application to be eligible for all costshare programs.

To apply for funds, beef producers must be BQA (beef quality assurance) certified. The University of Tennessee Extension administers the BQA program thru the Tennessee Cattlemen's Association with the

educational component. Costs of BQA certification is \$20 for Tennessee Cattlemen Association members and \$40 for non-members. All payments go directly to the Tennessee Cattlemen's Association.

FY21 TAEP Final Reimbursement Deadlines

Request to Decline Funding –

Livestock Equipment March 1, 2021

Reimbursement Request –

Livestock Equipment April 1, 2021

Request to Decline Funding – Genetics

May 1, 2021

Reimbursement Request Deadline –

Genetics June 1, 2021

Request to Decline Funding - Dairy

Solutions, Hay Storage, Herd Health, Row

Crop Solutions, Livestock Solutions,

Working Facility Structures, Poultry

Grower, Producer Diversification -

July 1, 2021.

For more information on these or other agriculture programs offered, please contact Heath Nokes at 931-473-8484 or hnokes@utk.edu.

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