



The Baker Bulletin

A
Baker County
Extension
Service Monthly
Newsletter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Horticulture	2
Announcements	3
Calendar	4
Upcoming Events	5
4-H	6
Agriculture	7
Notices	8

Dear Extension Friends,

Thank you for your continued support of the Baker County Extension Service and our programs. Spring is here and with it comes the annual Spring Garden Festival. Don't miss this event on April 5th to see spring in full bloom! Summer is not that far away either, so make sure to check out our offerings for day and overnight camps this summer. Finally, check out page 8 for the announcement of a new newsletter. As always, if we can help you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Davis
County Extension Director / Ag Agent
Baker County Extension Service

Spring
Garden Festival
Saturday, April 5th
9 am — 2pm

Contact Information—Baker County Extension Service

1025 W. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny, FL 32063

Phone: (904) 259-3520, FAX: (904) 259-9034

Email: baker@ifas.ufl.edu Hours: M—F 8:30am to 5:00pm (Closed Noon to 1:00pm for Lunch)

Michael Davis, Ph.D.

michael.davis@ufl.edu
Agriculture Agent



Alicia Lamborn

alamborn@ufl.edu
Horticulture Agent



Position Vacant

Family & Consumer
Sciences Agent



Shaina Bennett

sbennett@ufl.edu
4-H Agent



Highlights in Horticulture

By:

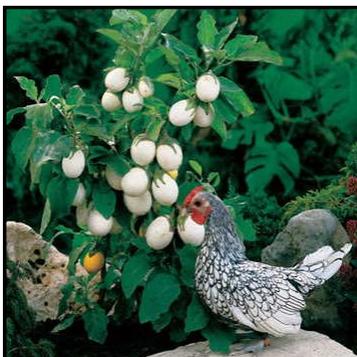
2

*Alicia Lamborn,
Horticulture Agent*

Easter Egg Plant

*Amaze the kids with a
summer visit
from the Easter Bunny!*

The Easter Egg Plant (*Solanum ovigerum*) is an ornamental eggplant that is sure to be a conversation piece in your garden. The fruits, or "eggs," are about the size of a hen's egg, starting off pure white and then maturing to a light yellow or golden color.



The Easter Egg Plant
Photo credit: www.parkseed.com

The 'Easter Egg' Eggplant is reportedly an edible ornamental eggplant that looks very similar to the Easter Egg Plant, having small, egg-sized white fruit that turns yellow when mature.

As fruits mature at different times, both types will have a variety of "egg" colors that contrast brilliantly with the green foliage. And both plants make a fun and interesting addition to a children's (or adult's) garden.

To eat or not to eat? It is important to note which type of eggplant you are purchasing since they closely resemble each other. The ornamental, inedible eggplant is a different species (*S. ovigerum*) than the culinary, edible eggplant (*S. melongena*).

Growing both types of white eggplant is very similar to growing the more common purple kinds. All may be started from seed and are well adapted to growing in containers. Eggplants should be grown during the warm season (eggplant is injured by frost but can be started anytime between February and July in north Florida) in rich, well-drained soil that has been amended with organic matter such as compost.

Steady growth and uniform moisture is important for quality fruit production. Normally eggplants are not staked, but a heavy fruit load may require some support later in the season.

Figs Love Florida Sun

By: Maggie Lyczak, Baker County Master Gardener

The fig tree is one of the easiest fruit trees to grow. They will produce crops of juicy sweet figs with little care. Be sure to buy only Southern varieties such as Celeste, Brown Turkey, Hunt, Green Ischia, Champagne and many others. Avoid California figs because they need a certain (tiny) wasp for pollination, that doesn't live here.

Plant your fig tree in the warmest spot in your yard where it will be protected from north winds, and allow plenty of room for it to grow. Figs grow to 15 feet tall or higher and just as wide. And make sure it will receive plenty of sun, since figs will not produce well if they receive less than six hours of direct sunlight per day.

Figs prefer a soil pH of 6.0-6.5, which means a simple pH test can determine if lime is needed to make your fig happy. Light applications of fertilizer are recommended since excess can promote excessive vegetative growth and low yield. If the total amount of vegetative growth is less than one foot in length, then it is appropriate to apply fertilizer. If fertilizer is needed, three to five applications can be made during the growing season (March to August). For young trees, 1/2 pound (1 cup) of 10-10-10 with micronutrients can be applied; for large trees, 2 to 4 pounds (4-8 cups) of 10-10-10 with micronutrients can be applied.



Figs will not grow well in a wet area, but they will need water during the fruiting season, especially during a drought, to prevent fruit drop. Figs need minimal pruning. Freeze damaged wood should be removed when they start growing again in the spring. Pruning should be done in early summer after the fruit has ripened to allow for a crop next year.

For more information on figs and individual fig varieties, visit <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/mg214>.

For information on selecting, preparing and canning figs, see <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/he228>.



Sign Up Now For Baker County 4-H Summer Camps



SPACE DAY CAMP – JUNE 9–11 - Ages 10-14

Cost: \$65.00 - Deadline to register: June 2nd

Explore to infinity and beyond with experiments and visits to the planetarium and Kennedy Space Center.

CAMP CHERRY LAKE – JUNE 16-20 – Ages 8 & Up

Cost: Members \$200.00 / Non-Members \$215.00 - Deadline to register: June 9th

Camp Orientation Meeting: June 9th @ 6pm

“Welcome To Our Jungle” is the theme for this weeklong overnight camp in Madison County.

EVERYTHING CRAFTY – JULY 7-10 – Ages 8 & Up

Cost: \$50.00 – Deadline to register: June 30th

Youth will learn to embrace their crafty side by making spa scrubs, crocheting, floral arranging and more!

CSI: BAKER COUNTY - JULY 14-17 – Ages 8 & Up

Cost: \$50.00 – Deadline to register: July 7th

Youth will explore the judicial system and learn what it is like to be a detective and forensic scientist!

BLUEBERRY COBBLER DAY CAMP - JULY 22-25 – Ages 8-13

Cost: \$50.00 – Deadline to register: July 14th

Youth will explore the dairy and blueberry production and make desserts, visit farms, and an ice cream parlor.

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION, GO TO [HTTP://BAKER.IFAS.UFL.EDU](http://BAKER.IFAS.UFL.EDU) OR CALL 259-3520

Baker County 4-H Benefit Auction

May 17th, 2014

Come support Baker County 4-H opportunities:

4-H Camp Scholarships, 4-H Club Resources, School Enrichment Resources and More!

There will be a \$5 admission fee, which includes dinner, drink and dessert.

Dinner will begin at 6:00 pm, Auction will begin at 6:30 pm

If you would like to donate to Baker County 4-H please contact:

Shaina Bennett, Baker County 4-H Youth Development Agent

904-259-3520 or slbennett@ufl.edu

April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 
6	7 	8	9 	10	11	12
13	14 	15 	16	17	18	19
20	21 	22 	23	24	25 	26
27	28 	29 	30			

Upcoming Programs are marked with a Program Area Symbol. Please match these symbols with the list on the following page for more information about the program.



4-H



Horticulture



Family &
Consumer Sciences



Agriculture

Upcoming Programs & Events

Programs will be held at the Baker County Extension Office (Agricultural Center) unless otherwise noted.

- Apr. 5** **Spring Garden Festival**, 9am to 2pm, Baker County Extension Service. Plants for sale by Baker County Master Gardeners and other local vendors, gardening exhibits, garden rummage sale, and many other activities! For more information, visit <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu> or call 259-3520.
- Apr. 9** **Tri-County Private Pesticide School and Examinations**, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Baker County Extension Service. This program is for Private Pesticide License Holders wishing to gain CEUs and for persons interested in obtaining a Private Pesticide License via the examinations. A total of 7 CEUs will be offered (3 CORE and 4 Private Applicator). CORE and Private Applicator examinations will also be offered after the instruction period. To register for this program, please contact the Baker County Extension Service at 904-259-3520.
- Apr. 15** **Container Gardening Workshop**, 6:00pm to 7:00pm @ Baker County Extension Office. Baker County youth are invited to join the All County 4-H Club meeting on Tuesday, April 15th for an interactive class on container gardening! Sign up for this event by April 10th; free for 4-H members and only \$5 for non 4-H members. Parents must accompany youth. For more information, please call (904) 259-3520.
- Apr. 22** **Earth Day in the Arboretum**, 6:00pm to 7:00pm, Baker County Extension Office. Celebrate Earth Day with a guided tour of Baker County's Arboretum (garden of trees). We'll also have a tree planting demonstration, tree give-away and scavenger hunt for youth to earn a 4-H summer camp voucher! For more information, call 259-3520.
- Apr. 25** **Aquaculture Workshop**, 9:30am to 4:00pm, Taylor County Extension Office, 203 Forest Park Drive, Perry, FL 32348. This program will focus on aquaponics, hydroponics, marine ornamental aquaculture, marine and freshwater baitfish culture, and more. More information on registration, contact: Taylor County Extension Office at 850-838-5308.
- Apr. 29** **Horse Nutrition Program**, 6:00pm to 8:00pm, Baker County Extension Service. This program is for horse owners interested in nutrition for their horse. Dr. Marty Adams, an Equine Nutritionist from Southern States Feed will give a presentation entitled 'Horse Feed Myths'. A meal will be provided, sponsored by Glen Cash Store. There will also be informational pamphlets, door prizes and a drawing for free feed. There is no registration fee for this program, but registration for the program is required. Please contact the Baker County Extension Service at 904-259-3520 to register by April 25, 2014.
- Apr. 29** **Vegetable Grafting Workshop**, 9:00am—4:30pm, Suwannee Valley Agricultural Extension Center, 8202 CR 417, Live Oak, FL 32060, Cost: \$50 per person. This workshop is for farmers interested in learning about using grafting as an integrative tool for vegetable production. The program will feature hands-on grafting practice and discuss a variety of topics. For more information contact: Sarah White at sewhite@ufl.edu, phone: 386-362-1725, ext. 102. To register online: vegetablegrafting14.eventbrite.com



4-H Club Meetings & Events:

All County 4-H Club — April 15th at 6pm in the 4-H Classroom

Livestock Club — April 22nd at 6pm in the Auditorium

Cloverleaf Cloggers — Every Monday at 7pm at Fabulous Footwork

JUDGES NEEDED!

4-H is looking for adult volunteers to judge in the Animal Science category for District Events on May 10th in Gainesville.

If you are interested in judging or for more information, please contact:
Shaina Bennett, 4-H Agent at 259-3520.

Baker County 

Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:

Shaina Bennett,
4-H Agent



4-H Competes!

Recently, Baker County 4-Hers have been busy! Baker County 4-H has participated in the District IV STEM Fair and County Events.

Five members participated at the STEM Fair in Live Oak, on March 14th. They all did really well! Participants had excellent projects that focused on many subjects, some focusing on consumer choices, engineering, psychology and forensics. All youth placed in the top of their categories with Isaac Fletcher winning his age division.



Pictured L to R:
Keelie Turk, Kenu Turk,
Klara Fletcher, Isaac
Fletcher, and Andrea Clark

County Events was held on March 22nd at the Extension Office with 10 youth participating in talent, demonstrations, illustrated talks, and photography. There were a total of 17 entries, the most since the early 2000's. Youth that participated in County Events: Keelie Turk, Kenu Turk, Abigail North, Matthew North, Seth North, Seth Sweat, Andrea Clark, Gracie Milton, Penny Davis, and Boomer Davis. Keelie presented a demonstration on how to make a loom band bracelet, Kenu gave an illustrated talk about his favorite ornamental ducks, Abigail clogged to the song Elvira, Matthew demonstrated how to pop a bullwhip, Seth North showed us how to do a card trick, Seth Sweat demonstrated how to make a hamburger, and Andrea presented an illustrated talk about fingerprinting! They all did phenomenal jobs and it takes so much courage to get up in front of a group of people and perform! I also want to thank all of their parents who stuck with them and helped them to participate! A special thank you to the leaders who came to support our club members! A final thank you to our wonderful judges who took the time out of their busy schedules to come and judge our events!

Events:

- April 05– Spring Garden Festival, Extension Office, 9am-2pm
- April 09– 4-H Day at the Capitol Registration DUE
- April 10– 4-H Legislature Registration OPEN
- April 15– Container Gardening at All County 4-H Meeting
- April 23– 4-H Day at the Capitol
- April 23– Tractor Supply Paper Clover Event begins
- May 2– **Auction Items deadline! Please turn them in!**
- May 10– District Events, Kanapaha Middle School, Gainesville, FL, Time TBD
- May 17– **4-H Auction, 6pm, Auditorium**
- May 20– Loom Bracelets at All County 4-H Meeting

Birthdays for April:

Wishing all of you a very **happy birthday** from the Baker County Extension Office!

- April 18– Krista Fort
- April 21– Hamp Craft
- April 22– Madison Lagle
- April 24– Kaleb Lewis



Us! www.facebook.com/bakerco4h



Did You Know:

4-H members used to wear a cap to all 4-H events. Have a look! I wonder what Jaunty means? If you find out let Ms. Shaina know for a prize!!! \$0.09 each, wow!

JAUNTY REGULATION 4-H CAPS

No. 137. Used by 4-H boys and girls everywhere—at camps, fairs and regular club meetings.

Six panels, green and white cambric, water-proof process emblem in green.

Sent prepaid at **10c** each for less than 25.

25 to 100 at 9c each

100 or more at 8c each

1000 or more at 7½c each

Express prepaid



No. 137

Page Nineteen

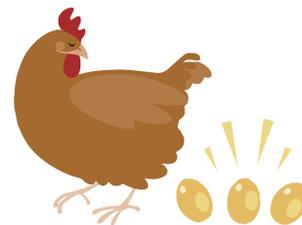


Happy Easter



New Rule for Poultry Expected in 2014

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), Division of Food Safety, has proposed a new rule for small poultry and egg operations within the state. The rule is designed to provide regulatory and economic relief to small farmers. Rule 5K-4.033 is entitled *Limited Poultry and Egg Farm Operation* and is currently not adopted, but expected to be sometime during the Spring of 2014. Below are a few of the changes that this rule will enact. Please note that some information presented below may change upon final adoption of the rule. FDACS is expected to produce a guidance document for the rule once it is adopted.



- The rule addresses farm-based food establishments which directly produces and offers dressed poultry or whole shell eggs for sale.
- No additional processing or food preparation of the poultry or shell eggs is allowed under the permit category.
- Operations that are allowed under this permit are limited to:
 - Dressed poultry and shell eggs only.
 - Poultry is defined as chicken, turkey, duck, goose, guinea or quail.
- The proposed rule refers to guidance produced by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) which is produced under the title *Guidance for Determining Whether a Poultry Slaughter or Processing Operation is Exempt from the Inspection Requirements of the Poultry Products Inspection Act*. This document can be found at: http://www.caes.uga.edu/topics/sustainag/documents/USDAPoultry_Slaughter_Exemption_0406.pdf
- The rule will allow exemption from inspection by the UDSA's Poultry Product Inspections Act based on certain requirements that are met by the producer. The most common of these are:
 - Exemption from inspection if the producer/grower slaughters/minimally processes no more than 20,000 birds in a single calendar year. (Note that flocks over 20,000 birds are not covered by the permit).
 - Shell egg producers must maintain a flock of less than 1,000 birds within a calendar year.
- Products that are produced under the permit (minimally processed poultry or shell eggs) can be sold **WITHIN** the STATE OF FLORIDA ONLY.
- Products that are produced under the permit (minimally processed poultry or shell eggs) **CANNOT** be sold wholesale or by mail order.
- The permit is expected to cost \$100 annually. (Note that this amount may differ once the final rule is adopted).
- Although exemption from inspection will be granted upon fulfillment of the requirements of the rule, producers may still have to follow rules based on product labeling, proper production, sanitation techniques, etc.
- FDACS is expected to produce a Guidance Document for the rule once final adoption has taken place.

Baker County Extension Service

1025 West Macclenny Avenue
Macclenny, FL 32063

Phone: (904) 259-3520

FAX: (904) 259-9034

Email: michael.davis@ufl.edu

Website: <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu>

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.

US Postage

PAID

Permit No. 17

Macclenny FL 32063

Extension programs are open to all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, handicap, or national origin. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in any activity, should contact the Baker County Cooperative Extension Service at 1025 West Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063 or telephone (904) 259-3520 no later than five (5) days prior to the event. Hearing impaired persons can access the foregoing telephone by contacting the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

New Newsletter Available



The Baker County Extension Service is pleased to announce the availability of a new newsletter, *Feathered Facts*, that focuses on poultry topics and information.

The newsletter is available in electronic format only and is accessible from the Baker County Extension website. You may also sign up to receive an email reminder of new issues via the website.

This monthly newsletter will focus on topics related to backyard poultry production, including general questions and answers, hot topics concerning poultry, nutrition, management and others.

Please visit <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu> to access the latest edition.

Have you heard the news?



Alicia Lamborn will be on maternity leave for several months starting in June.

While she is away, Dr. Kyle Brown, a retired horticulture professor, will be filling in to assist residents with their plant questions and problems. Baker County Master Gardeners will also be available to assist you during this time.

Dr. Brown's Tentative Office Hours will be:
Monday — Friday, 1pm to 5pm

Email: bakermg@ifas.ufl.edu

More information will come in next month's newsletter!