



The Baker Bulletin

A
Baker County
Extension
Service Monthly
Newsletter

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Dear Extension Friends,

It has certainly been a hot summer so far in Baker County. While we have had some dry periods, afternoon thunderstorms have proven beneficial. Please remember that the height of hurricane season will start in late August and run through October. There is information on the 4-H page (pages 3 & 6) about the upcoming Awards Ceremony. 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



Contact Information—Baker County Extension Service

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

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Highlights in Horticulture

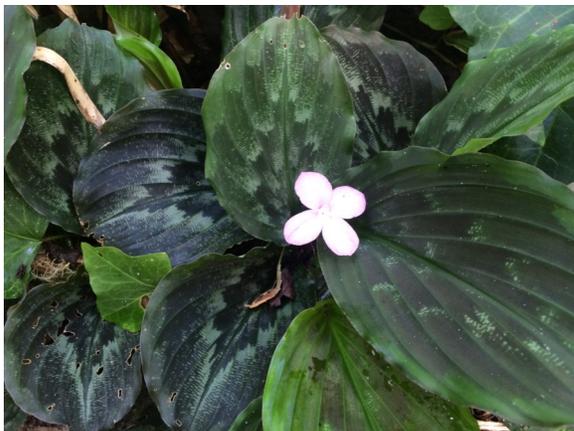
By:
Alicia Lamborn,
Horticulture Agent

Plant of the Month: Peacock Ginger

Peacock gingers (*Kaempheria* sp.) are colorful plants that are perfect for shady spots! Small pink or purple flowers bloom throughout summer, but these plants are best known for their beautiful leaves. While some varieties have solid green leaves, most gardeners prefer varieties with markings in bold colors of purple, bronze and silver. Their low-growing habit makes them perfect for filling in shady areas of the garden, and they will eventually spread to form a solid groundcover.

These plants perform best in rich, well-drained soils but are tolerant of other soil conditions. In full or partial shade, Peacock gingers will need regular watering after planting then only as needed once established in the landscape. Like other gingers, these plants will die back during winter only to return again the following spring.

If you have trouble finding them in stores, ask a friend to share a few plants with you. They readily spread by rhizomes to make new plants which makes them great pass-a-long plants.



Photos
by
Alicia
Lamborn

Butterfly Garden Expansion Project

Over several years, the Baker County Extension Butterfly Garden has been spreading its wings and is now soaring to new heights. Originally planted in



2010 by 4-H members and expanded in 2011 by Master Gardener Volunteers, the garden generates much interest from visitors who enjoy learning about low maintenance plant species that attract butterflies with their colorful flowers. With over 200 people viewing the garden each year, the need for further improvements was identified by three volunteers who took charge of the project. Over a one month period, Master Gardeners created their ideal garden design and each presented their work to the group. With guidance from the agent, project leaders created a final plan for the garden using features from each design and began preparing the area for the transformation.

While the old garden had approximately 25 plants of 11 species, the new garden features over 100 plants of 28 species and includes both nectar and host plants. Two species of vines now use the chain link fence as a trellis and will one day provide a more attractive backdrop for the garden. A new stone path guides visitors through the garden allowing for a closer look at both flowers and pollinators, while a stool positioned opposite from a puddling dish serves as an invitation to sit and watch as butterflies stop to take a drink of water. Butterfly-shaped plant markers compliment the garden theme and help visitors identify plant species.



The growing number of flowering plants has attracted the attention of many species of butterflies, bees, wasps, and other insects, as well as gardeners. If you would like to visit the garden yourself, the Extension Office welcomes you. Just check in at the front office and we'll provide you with a butterfly garden plant guide so you can learn more about the plants you see in the garden.



**Baker
County** 

*4-H Members, Families
& Volunteers*

Don't miss out on this special time of recognition for your participation in Baker County 4-H! All 4-H members will be rewarded with a year completion pin and certificate and many other special awards will be given to members and volunteers for their year of hard work!

*4-H Awards Ceremony
Thursday, August 13, 2015 at 6:30pm
Baker County Agricultural Center Auditorium*

All members should wear 4-H attire (white button down shirt, dress pants/dark jeans)
There will be light refreshments after ceremony. See page 6 for more information on awards.

Call 259-3520 to RSVP by August 10th!

4-H Enrollment for the New 2015-16 Year

You may sign up for the new 2015-16 4-H year after August 15, 2015. Every 4-H member must enroll at Florida.4honline.com every year and pay \$1 for 4-H insurance to remain an active 4-H member. If you do not have access to a computer, you can call and make arrangements to enroll at the Baker County 4-H Office.

Cloverleaf Logging Club

Livestock Club

All County 4-H Club

After August 15, enroll at
<https://florida.4honline.com>



If you have any questions regarding 4-H enrollment, please call 259-3520.

4-H is Looking For Volunteers!

Do you have a talent or gift that you would like to share with our local youth? If so, 4-H might be the place for you! If you are interested in volunteering in one of our current clubs or would like to start a new club, please contact Shaina Spann, 4-H Agent at 259-3520.



August 2015

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	31					

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



Agriculture

Upcoming Programs & Events

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

August 13 **Backyard Poultry Seminar**, 6:00 pm to 8:30pm, Duval County Extension Office, 1010 N. McDuff Ave., Jacksonville, FL. Do you have an interest in raising backyard poultry? If so, please plan to attend the Backyard Poultry Seminar on August 13. Jacksonville residents who live in residential areas who wish to keep poultry must attend a class to receive their permit from the City of Jacksonville. Topics will include: 1) Chick Management & Care, 2) General Management & Husbandry of the Flock, and 3) Nutrition & Feeding. There will also be a presentation on COJ Permit Requirements and Procedures. Pre-registration is required. The registration fee is \$5.00 per person. For additional information or to register for the program, please call 904-255-7450.

Aug. 14-15 **First Coast Specialty Crop Conference**, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL. This conference is designed to provide multiple networking and educational opportunities for farmers and other stakeholders in the regional food system. Topics will include enhancing your soils, pest management, food safety, post-harvest practices., and farm diversification. For additional information and registration details, please visit <http://www.firstcoastconference.eventbrite.com>.

October 2 **Dripline Irrigation and the Landscape**, 10:00 am or 3:00 pm, Baker County Extension Office, 1025 W. Macclenny Ave, Macclenny, FL. Drip irrigation is a great way to cut costs on water. It is also more effective at providing water directly to the root zone of plants. This 90-minute workshop discusses the importance of protecting Florida’s water resources and will show you how to install a system at home. The workshop is free, but seating is limited; RSVP and choose your session by calling (904) 259-3520. Course taught by Taylor Clem, a Ph.D. candidate in University of Florida’s Department of Environmental Horticulture. For more information, call the Baker County Extension Office or contact Taylor Clem at taylorclem87@ufl.edu.



4-H Club Meetings & Events:

All County 4-H Club — 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month, 6pm in the 4-H classroom

Livestock Club —
Check with Club Leaders.

Cloverleaf Cloggers — Every Tuesday, 7pm at Fabulous Footworks

Important Dates: August 2015

13– 4-H Awards, Auditorium, 6:30pm

20– Jacket Orders Due

31– End of 4-H year!



Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:

*Shaina Bennett,
4-H Agent*

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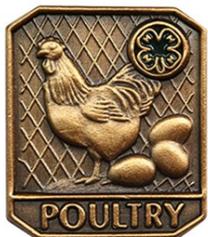


4-H AWARDS!



The 2014-2015 4-H year is coming to a close. Each year we have an awards ceremony to finalize the year of 4-H as well as to reward our youth and volunteers for their year of hard work. This is their time to be recognized!

If youth did a 4-H project (not record) book for the year and have finished them PLEASE turn them in!!! The **due date is August 10th** (you still have time to get them done). The best project book will receive an award as well as age division winners. With the project book completion, members can receive a pin with the corresponding area in addition to the every year completion pins. EACH member will at least receive a year completion pin and a certificate of participation. Don't forget the fun awards!!!



The awards ceremony is August 13th at 6:30pm.

All members should wear their 4-H attire (white button down, dress pants/dark jeans)

There will be light refreshments afterwards.

Please RSVP by August 10th!

Mrs. Shaina is going to be ordering green corduroy 4-H jackets and vests. Should you want to order one, please look online at: <https://www.showjacket.com/Order/> and let her know the details with payment by August 20th

Wondering how our summer was?

Please check out our Facebook page!
www.facebook.com/bakerco4h

Look at our photo albums and see how much fun we had at all of the summer camps!

Events:

August

- 13- 4-H Awards, Auditorium, 6:30pm
- 20- Jacket Orders Due
- 31- End of 4-H year!

September

- 01- 1st Executive Board Registration Opens
- 05- FAIR ENTRY FORMS DUE
- 11- Leadership Adventure Weekend (LAW) Registration Closes
- 12- 4-H Day at Gator Football!!
- 18-20- LAW, Camp Anderson, Old Town, FL. 4-H members ages 14+
- 24- Southern Region Teen Leadership Conference, Clyde M. York 4-H Center Crossville, Tennessee
- 25- 4-H Day at LegoLand Registration ends Register: <http://bit.ly/1loNAux>
- 26- 4-H Day at LegoLand
- 29- 2pm-7pm Home Arts Entries due at Fairgrounds
- 30- 2pm-7pm Home Arts & Food Entries due at Fairgrounds

October

- 01- Food Entries Due 7:30-8:15am Fairgrounds
- 02- Baker County Fair Begins Poultry, Rabbits, Goats due: 3-5pm
- 04- Market Swine/Steer weigh-in 2-6pm
- 05- Poultry Showmanship 6pm Rabbit Show 7pm
- 06- Sheep Show- 6pm; then Goat, then Steer
- 07- Swine Show 7pm
- 08- Market Sale 6:30pm
- 16-18- 1st Executive Board, Camp Cherry Lake, Madison FL

Birthdays for August:

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

- 06- Kilian McGroarty
- 08- Jace Stokes
- 09- Robbie Hill
- 10- Jayden Wilburn
- 14- Breanna Taylor
- 14- Khale Harris
- 22- Pearl Wilburn
- 26- Boomer Davis



Backyard Poultry Diseases & Treatments

Backyard poultry are a good way to have 'homegrown' meat and eggs, but there are certain diseases that owners should be on the lookout for in their poultry flocks. Most of these diseases are not transferrable to humans, but they can have a detrimental effect on the productivity of your birds. If you have questions about your backyard poultry flock, please do not hesitate to contact the County Extension Office for assistance.



Bumblefoot—Bumblefoot is a localized infection of *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria in the foot. It is typically caused by a puncture wound to the foot. This infection is characterized by lameness and swelling of the foot pads. Treatment with antibiotics such as penicillin, erythromycin and novobiocin will eliminate the bacteria.

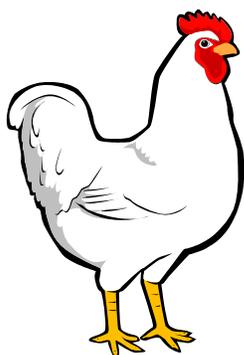
Avian Pox—This disease is commonly referred to as fowl pox. There are three types of virus that can cause disease in chickens. Visible lesions can be either dry and wart-like on the skin or they can be wet and found in the mouth and respiratory tract. One or both types of lesions can appear. The disease will usually run its course through an animal within 3 to 5 weeks after appearance of symptoms. Young birds with this disease will show a slowness of growth, while laying hens will have a drop in egg production. There is no treatment for birds with the infection; however, birds can be vaccinated after hatch.

Infectious Coryza—This disease is caused by a bacterium, *Hemophilus paragallinarum*. The bacterium does not survive long outside a host, so bird-to-bird transmission is the most common way that the disease is spread. This is an acute respiratory infection that causes nasal discharge, sneezing, depression and swelling of the face and wattles. Mortality can be as high as 50% and the disease usually runs its course in 2 to 3 months. Antibiotics and sulfa drugs can be used to treat this disease, although sulfa drugs should not be administered to laying flocks. Vaccinations for this disease are available.

Coccidiosis—This disease is caused by a protozoa and there are nine species that can infect chickens. Coccidiosis primarily affects young birds, but older birds can become infected. The disease is spread primarily via feces and litter. The protozoa causes lesions in the intestinal tract that result in depression, diarrhea, weakness and decreased food and water consumption. Advanced cases of coccidiosis can cause high mortality. There are many drugs that are effective against this disease and are commonly referred to as coccidiostats. Many starter feeds have a coccidiostat in the feed. Using these types of starter feeds along with good husbandry will help to prevent the disease.

External Parasites (Lice & Mites) - External parasites cause general unthriftiness in birds and can lead to open sores which can lead to other bacterial or viral infections. If you suspect that your birds have lice and/or mites, there are many commercial insecticides that can be used, mainly in spray or dust form.

Vitamin Deficiencies—There are many vitamin deficiencies that chickens are susceptible to. To combat these, make sure to use a well balanced ration. If you range your birds, remember that birds can only get about 15% of their daily nutritional needs met from range (insects, grass, etc.). Also remember to not unbalance a good ration by overfeeding scratch or table scraps.



Baker County Extension Service

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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).

It's Time to Get Your Plants Ready for the Fair!

The horticulture exhibit at the Baker County Fair gives local gardeners of all ages a chance to show off their plants. Adult and youth entries follow the same judging procedures but are judged separately, and it doesn't cost anything to participate. In fact, you can earn some cash for each plant you show plus you'll receive a free entrance pass to come see what you've won. All types of plants are accepted but only qualified entries receive a ribbon and cash prize. It's easy to qualify, but now is the time to get your plants ready to show.

To qualify: All plants must have been grown by you, and in your possession for at least three months prior to the fair. All plants must be free from disease and insects. **Other helpful tips:** Remember to rotate your plant regularly so that it looks full and symmetrical. Grooming your plants to remove leaves with holes and dead tips is usually necessary before the show. **Entries:** You may enter up to 25 plants, but not more than one of the same cultivar or variety of plant. Categories include: Flowering/Fruiting (must have flowers or fruit), Foliage Plants (plants grown for foliage; without flowers/fruit), Special Display (container garden, mounted, or topiary), Bonsai, Cacti & Succulents, Hanging Plants (hanging baskets or mounted plants meant to hang), and Patio Plants (containers 14" or larger).



Premiums for Ribbons: Blue \$3 – Red \$2 – White \$1 – Award of Merit \$5 – Best of Show \$10



4-H Members: Receive an extra \$1 premium from Ms. Shaina



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR HORTICULTURE ENTRIES:

Entries accepted: Tuesday, Sept. 29th from 12pm-7pm & Wednesday, Sept. 30th from 9am-3pm

Plant Pick-up: Sunday, October 11th from 1pm-5pm

Fair Rules: Available from the Baker County Extension Office, and at www.bakercountyfair.com

Questions? Call Cindy Jenkins, Horticulture Chairperson @ 259-9517