



The Baker Bulletin

A
Baker County
Extension
Service Monthly
Newsletter

Baker County Extension Service

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Macclenny, FL 32063

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Email: baker@ifas.ufl.edu

Hours: M—F 8:30am to 5:00pm
(Closed Noon to 1:00pm for Lunch)

County Agents

Alicia Lamborn
Horticulture Agent

Shaina Spann
4-H Youth Development Agent

Alicia Halbritter
Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent

Dear Extension Friends,

We know this has been a hectic year for many people, but we would appreciate hearing from you to learn if this newsletter is meeting its goals. Please consider taking a few minutes to complete our survey and provide feedback using the link below. To show our appreciation for your time, we will hold a drawing for a gift basket and will use your comments to write articles on new topics of interest to you. Thank you so much for being a supporter of Baker County Extension programs!

Sincerely,

Alicia Lamborn, County Director
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County

Take Our Survey & Enter to Win A
Wildlife Themed Gift Basket!

<https://forms.gle/rypP9EkJzCTTiMMk6>

[http://
baker.ifas.ufl.edu](http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu)

[http://
blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/bakerco](http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/bakerco)

[Baker County Garden Spot](#)
[Baker County 4-H](#)

Check out our Livestock
Google Site!



Growing Strawberries Virtual Class & Plant Sale

Join us online for a virtual class on growing strawberries! Class topics will include how to select, plant, and grow strawberries in the home garden. The class is free, with the option to purchase bare-root strawberry plants as part of our annual fall fundraiser.

Access our virtual classroom which includes a 25-minute instructional video, gardening resources, and strawberry recipes:
<https://sites.google.com/view/bakercountyextension-classroom>

Purchase strawberry plants in the office or online at: <https://growing-strawberries.eventbrite.com>

We have a limited number of strawberry plants still available. Please see the Eventbrite page for more details. Questions? Call (904) 259-3520

Highlights in Horticulture

By:
Alicia Lamborn,
Horticulture Agent



November Gardening Tips

Flowers

- Prepare flower beds by adding 2-3 inches of organic matter such as compost to the soil surface. Next sprinkle a controlled-release fertilizer at the rate indicated on the label and thoroughly mix it into the top 6 inches of soil. Organic matter helps the soil retain moisture and controlled-release fertilizer provides a continuous nutrient supply over an extended time span (e.g., 3–4 months).

Trees & Shrubs

- Rake falling leaves and pine straw to use as mulch in the garden. Mulch should be 2-3 inches thick after settling. Avoid piling the mulch directly at the base of trees and shrubs and never apply mulch in a volcano-like fashion which contributes to trunk rot and can even repel water.

Lawns

- Spot treat weeds while they are still young to avoid a larger problem later. Bring samples to the Extension Office for identification and we can offer suggestions for the best management strategies for your lawn type and situation.

Landscape Irrigation

- Turn your irrigation clock to manual starting this month and let your plants tell you when it's time to water. Growth slows during the cooler months and plants generally require less water. For landscape plants, wait until they show the first signs of wilting. For lawns, only water when leaf blades get that blue-gray color or start folding in half lengthwise. Of course, once your lawn goes dormant, it won't need much, if any, supplemental irrigation.

Moss Problems?

- As the leaves begin to drop this time of year, many of us start to notice what may appear to be problems on our trees. Spanish moss, ball moss, and lichen are all commonly mistaken to be harmful in some way, although these organisms seldom need any attention at all. They do not kill or rob the trees of nutrients; they only need a place to live. For more information on lichen, visit <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/media/sfylifasufledu/baker/docs/pdf/horticulture/Lichens.pdf> and <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/files/EP/EP48500.pdf>

Cold Weather Prep

- Keep an eye out for tree wraps this month, which are usually available during fall at gardening supply stores. Tree wraps protect young trees, thin-bark trees and graft unions from winter cracking and damage. Foam pipe insulation can also be used as a substitute and is often preferred for citrus grafts. Remove wraps in early spring before the buds begin to swell so that growth is not inhibited.

Did You Know? Reducing irrigation during the winter (November—March) by watering once every other week saves about 8,259 gallons per 1,000 square feet. For a 5,000 square foot lawn, that equates to over 41,000 gallons of water saved!

The Meyer Lemon

When life gives you lemons...may they be Meyer Lemons

Not a true lemon?

The Meyer Lemon is a cross between a lemon and a sweet orange, which means it is not a true lemon. But that is why so many of us enjoy growing this tree! While its fruits are used as a lemon substitute, they are much less acidic and provide a sweeter alternative to true lemons. An added bonus is that it



Photo credit: alasm ([CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.0/))

brings color to the winter landscape, bearing fruit during fall and winter. The trees are relatively small, nearly thornless, and are self-pollinating which means you don't need multiple plants for your tree to bear fruit. The fruits are moderately seedy and resemble a large orange in shape and color. These trees are also more cold tolerant than true lemons, which makes it the ideal lemon tree for north Florida landscapes.

History

In 1908, a USDA plantsperson named Frank Meyer brought back from China what became known as the Meyer lemon. However, the 'Improved Meyer Lemon' is now the only variety available (since the 1970s) which is resistant to a virus that had been problematic for the plant in the past.

Site Selection & Planting

Select a sunny, warm location that does not flood or remain wet after typical summer rains. Also, make sure the site is protected from cold north winds (e.g., the south side of the home). Placing topsoil or compost in the hole first and then planting on top of it is not desirable. If you wish to add topsoil or compost to the native soil, mix it with the excavated soil in no more than a 50-50 ratio. To improve survival in high water table and flood prone areas, consider planting the tree on a mound of native soil that is roughly 3-4 feet high by 4-10 feet wide.

Maintenance

Newly planted lemon trees should be watered at planting and every other day for the first week or so and then 1 to 2 times a week for the first couple of months. Afterwards, water periodically during dry spells. New trees should be fertilized only after new growth appears, using a 6-6-6 with 2% magnesium. Protect trees from temps below 20°F by trapping heat under a cover that is large enough to reach the ground. For much more information on growing lemons, see: <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/hs402>



**In honor of Farm City Week,
Baker County Farm Bureau
and the Baker County Extension
Office are collecting
non-perishable food items
for local families in need.**

Suggested Items:

- Stuffing
- Rice
- Gravy
- Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Fried Onions
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Corn Bread Mix
- Canned Items: Green Beans, Corn, Yams, Pie filling
- Graham Cracker Crust

Drop-Off Locations:

**Baker County Extension Office
1025 W Macclenny Ave.**

**Baker County Farm Bureau
539 S 6th St.**

**Please drop off items
by November 16th**



Newly Released EDIS Publications for your Reading Pleasure

What is EDIS? EDIS is the Electronic Data Information Source of UF/IFAS Extension, a collection of information on topics relevant to you. Check out some of the newly released publications below or search for any topic of interest to you at <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Elderberry and Elderflower (Sambucus spp.): A Cultivation Guide for Florida

Provides information on growing American elderberry in Florida



as an alternative crop for commercial growers as well as homeowners. Although elderberry has been historically grown at commercial scale in some world regions, especially throughout Europe, in the New World it has not found meaningful commercial acceptance until recently. <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/hs1390>



Japanese Persimmon Cultural Practices in Florida

Describes how to propagate and establish persimmons in Florida, while also providing information on irrigation, fertilization, harvest, pests, diseases, and more. <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/hs1389>

Chicken of the Woods (Laetiporus sulphureus species complex)

These wood-decay fungi cause brown rot within the heartwood of their tree hosts. The common name "chicken of the woods" is given to some species in this group because they are tasty edible mushrooms. Learn more about their ecology, management, and potential edibility.

<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pp358>



Edible Landscaping Using the Nine Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

Maintaining edible landscapes in a way that protects the environment is an important concern for protecting Florida's water quality. <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep594>



County Council/Jr. Leaders Club Meets November 17th, at 6pm

County Council is a club that will meet once a month to discuss what's happening in other clubs, plan county 4-H activities, county community service projects, and participate in leadership programs. This club will have guest speakers and activities for developing leadership skills. This club also sends representatives ages 11+ to the District Council meetings to represent Baker County.

Register to attend here: <https://bit.ly/2HJCK8S>

HOLIDAY COOKBOOK

The holidays will be upon us before we know it! Since we cannot come together in person, why not still come together through food!? Please submit a favorite recipe with a story by 5:00pm November 16th so we can compile the recipes into a book.

SUBMIT RECIPES HERE

EARN POINTS!

If you are trying to earn points, remember you can earn points by participating in any of the activities that 4-H offers!

For example, 4-H is offering 1 point per jar of peanut butter donated, up to 5 points. (see page 7). You can also earn points from attending 4-H @ 4 activities, by submitting a recipe for the cookbook, by participating in fundraisers, community service events, and more!

4-H@4

No Bake DESSERT

November 6, 2020
4:00PM

Let's get ready for the holiday season and learn how to make a no bake dessert!

Materials Needed:

- Measuring cups
- Large microwavable bowl
- Spatula
- Gallon zipper storage bag
- Microwave
- Powdered Sugar
- Bag of chocolate chips
- Graham cracker style cereal
- Mini marshmallows

Optional: candy corn, fall sprinkles, nuts, or fall colored candies!



UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

To register, go here: <https://forms.gle/9WwT2HU1o1Q7frCY9>

4-H NEEDS ASSESSMENT

We want to know your thoughts! We have created a survey, or needs assessment, to see what direction the 4-H program should be in over the coming months. Please click the button below to take the survey, all that enter their email/name will be entered into a drawing for some 4-H swag!

[Click here to take the 4-H needs assessment!](#)

NOV 2020



4-H Gratitude Challenge

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
Start a gratitude journal. Each day write down something you are thankful for.	Write a thank you note to your 4-H advisor.	Think of someone you are grateful to know. Tell them.	Complete one random act of kindness today.	Send a text to someone who makes you smile and tell them why.	Handwrite a letter and mail it to a friend.	Create a piece of art that shows what you are thankful for.
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
Spend time with someone you care about.	Compliment at least 5 other people today.	Think of someone you are proud of. Tell them!	Thank a veteran for their service. Veteran's Day	Volunteer to do an unpleasant task, like taking out the garbage or doing the dishes.	Write a thank you note to a special teacher.	Bake a treat for your neighbors.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Gather 10 items from your closet to donate.	Make a social media post highlighting a person you are grateful for.	Write a thank you note to a coach or mentor.	Color a picture and give it to a friend.	Do a family member's chores for them today.	Set time aside to play a game with your family.	Share a photo of something you are grateful for on social media.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Think of a creative way to Pay It Forward today.	Leave a note of encouragement for a friend.	Call a relative you haven't spoken to recently.	No complaining day! Each time you want to complain, say something you are grateful for instead.	Spend time with family and friends. Thanksgiving	Give a small gift to someone for no reason at all.	Write a letter or note to your parents or grandparents.
29	30					
Donate one canned food item for each day you forgot to write in your gratitude journal	Read over your gratitude journal and spend time reflecting on the challenge.					

4-H wants you to take our 2020 Gratitude Challenge! 2020 has not been an easy year, but we still have plenty of reasons to give thanks. Print this calendar and complete each daily task to help show gratitude to your Club, Community, Country, and World.

Use **#4HGrowsHere**, **#Grateful4Her**, and **#4HGratitudeChallenge** to spread an attitude a gratitude to all of your social media friends and followers.



4-H GROWS HERE

Barnyard Bulletin

By:
Alicia Halbritter,
Agriculture Agent



Thank a Farmer this Holiday Season

November is a time of thanks as we head into Thanksgiving and other holidays. Here are some fun facts about US production of some holiday favorites:



In 2017, 20 million tons of potatoes were harvested across the US! That's enough to make mashed potatoes for twenty billion people!

In 2018, 38 billion pounds of pork was produced.

In 2018 the average American ate 47.8 lbs of pork, that means US production alone could feed 812,322,635 people for a year! That's 2.5 times more than the entire US population!



In 2018, 26 billion pounds of beef was produced. 33 million cows were processed in 2018, if 2 prime rib roasts were harvested from each cow the beef industry could serve 66 million holiday meals this year.

The US produced 892,600,000 pounds of cranberries in 2018! That's enough cranberries to make 2,677,799,999 cups of cranberry sauce!

2020 Start Farming Conference

November 17th — 6pm to 7:30pm

A free virtual conference for new and beginning farmers. Breakout sessions: Find Money for Farming, Sustainability, Urban Permaculture, Composting 101, Building Healthy Communities, Equity in Farming and Value-Added Agriculture. Panelists from Abundant Harvests Farm, Backyard Buffalo, Juicy Roots Farm & Homestead, and Front Porch Pickings. Hosted by the Duval and Clay County Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Register at Eventbrite <https://startfarming2020.eventbrite.com>.

HYDROPONIC VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

November 9 to December 11, 2020



- Learn to manage different hydroponic systems.
- Learn fundamentals of climate, water, nutrition, and plant health.
- Intermediate level (some experience and training, or entry level university). Designed for employees in the US and internationally who are in production, technical or sales roles. Not intended for home-owners and hobbyists.
- Lectures and assignments in both English and Spanish

Lesson topics

1. Hydroponic growing systems and structures
2. Environment (light, temperature, relative humidity, CO₂)
3. Plant health
4. Water and nutrients
5. Lettuce and leafy greens
6. Tomatoes, cucumbers, and peppers
7. Microgreens and Indoor production under LEDs
8. Business management and food safety

Instructors



Bob Hochmuth



Tatiana Sanchez

University of Florida

Paul Fisher
Wanda Laughlin
Kevin Athearn
Celina Gómez
Dan Fenneman

Cornell University

Neil Mattson
Jonathan Allred

How do I register and access the course?

- Each employee will be registered individually to track their progress.
- Once you have registered you will be sent an online link. You will be able to access this with a desktop computer, tablet, or smart phone.
- Classes are completely online and include streaming videos, readings, and assignments. They are available any time of the day and new modules are activated each of the 4 weeks of the course. It takes about 4 hours per week to complete lessons and activities. No classes during Thanksgiving week.
- Discuss questions online with your instructors during the course for help and interactive learning.
- Cost is \$199 per employee. 20% off when enrolling five or more. Email greenhousetraining@ifas.ufl.edu for information.

Is there a university credit, qualification, or certificate?

- Part of the UF/IFAS Extension Greenhouse Training Online program.
- When you complete the course requirements (pre and post evaluations, participate in discussions, and two graded quizzes) you will be sent a personalized certificate.
- The course does not count for credit towards a university degree.

TO REGISTER, VISIT:

<http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/training/>

FOR MORE INFORMATION
greenhousetraining@ifas.ufl.edu

2020 PEANUT BUTTER CHALLENGE

SPREAD THE WORD...
PEANUT BUTTER
FIGHTS
HUNGER!

OCT. 1-NOV. 25

Donate unopened jars
of peanut butter at the
UF/IFAS Extension office
in your county.

The Florida Peanut Producers
Association matches donations.

All peanut butter donations go
to local food pantries to help
feed families in need.

From October 1 through
November 25, support your
local producers and people in
need in your community by
generously donating to the
Peanut Butter Challenge.

**FIND THE PEANUT BUTTER
CHALLENGE DROP-OFF LOCATION
CLOSEST TO YOU:**

Baker County Extension Office (Ag Center)
Emily Taber Public Library (Macclenny)
Rhoden's True Value (Glen St. Mary)