



The Baker Bulletin

A
Baker County
Extension
Service Monthly
Newsletter

Baker County Extension Service

1025 W. Macclenny Ave.
Macclenny, FL 32063

Phone: (904) 259-3520

Email: baker@ifas.ufl.edu

Hours: M—F 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
(Closed Noon to 1:00 pm 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 are nearing the end of summer, which means cooler temperatures (and hopefully less rainfall) are just around the corner! In the meantime, the county fair returns this month including the horticulture and home arts exhibits (details on page 8). We will also be kicking off the Peanut Butter Challenge in October, but feel free to bring in your peanut butter donations early so we can get a jump start on fighting hunger in Baker County!

Sincerely,

Alicia

Alicia Lamborn, County Director
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County



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

Blog <http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/bakerco>

Baker County Garden Spot
Baker County 4-H

Check out our Livestock Google Site!

STRAWBERRY PLANT FUNDRAISER

'Camarosa' Strawberries

- Named the 'most productive variety in north Florida' by UF/IFAS
- Vigorous plants are also container friendly
- Fruiting begins in late winter
- High to excellent per-plant yields
- Large, firm fruit with very good flavor

259-3520

1025 w. macclenny ave.

10 plants - \$5

50 plants - \$20

PRE-ORDER TODAY

PAY AT PICK-UP

Strawberry Gardening Class

Join us online for a FREE virtual class on growing strawberries! Class topics include how to select, plant, and grow strawberries in the home garden.

Register here: <https://forms.gle/KtSmsfTHMpYJi2kPA> to access our classroom which includes a 25-minute instructional video, gardening resources, and strawberry recipes.

As part of our annual fundraiser, you may pre-order plants by calling (904) 259-3520. You will pay at pickup (mid-October). Limited quantities available; unclaimed orders will be offered to those on the waiting list.

Highlights in Horticulture

By: *Alicia Lamborn, Horticulture Agent*



September in the Garden

Flowers

- Divide clumping perennial plants like daylily and amaryllis if they have become over-crowded. This will improve flowering and plant quality.
- Planting annual flowers that thrive in the heat can only be expected to grow until first frost. Consider waiting until October to plant cool season annuals for a fresh splash of color.



Witch's Wink Daylily
Credit: Alicia Lamborn, UF/IFAS Extension

Trees & Shrubs

- Minimize pruning on spring flowering shrubs and trees by removing only broken, damaged, or rubbing branches. Heavy pruning or shearing this late in the year will reduce the number of blooms next spring.
- Don't overprune palm trees – remove dead leaves and flower/fruit stalks only. A properly pruned palm should have a round canopy, not a feather-duster crown.
- Scout ornamental plants for pests like scale, grasshoppers, caterpillars, and whiteflies. If treatment is needed, treat only the affected area and use a product that targets the pests and not your beneficial insects (like insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, neem and Bt).

Vegetables & Herbs

- Prepare the fall vegetable garden and begin planting cool season crops. Using transplants from a local garden center will get the garden off to a fast start, but seeds offer more varieties to choose from. For a list of Florida-proven performers, See Vegetable Gardening in Florida: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_vegetable_gardening
- Herbs that can be planted this month include: basil, lemon balm, chives, fennel, sage, oregano and thyme.



Fruits & Nuts

- This is the last month to fertilize citrus trees. Use the following table to determine the amount to apply.

Tree Age (since planting)	6-6-6	8-8-8	10-10-10	Applications per year
1	0.5-1.5 cups	0.5-1.25 cups	0.5-1.0 cup	6
2	2.0-4.25 cups	1.5-3.0 cups	1.0-2.5 cups	5
3	4.0-7.0 cups	2.75-5.5 cups	2.25-4.5 cups	4
4	8.75-11.25 cups	6.5-8.25 cups	5.25-6.5 cups	3
5+	12.0-15.5 cups	9.0-11.5 cups	7.25-9.25 cups	3

- Fertilize persimmons using 1-2 cups of 10-10-10 with micro-nutrients. Double this amount for large, mature trees.

Fall Lawn Care

All plants, including turf, need a continuous supply of nutrients to grow properly. And while a dense thriving turf is the best way to prevent a weed invasion, some lawns may need a little extra help this time of year.

September

Winterize your lawn by mid-September using a fertilizer product containing equal amounts of nitrogen and potassium and no more than 2% phosphorus (such as 10-0-10, 15-0-15, or 18-2-18). Check the label to determine the appropriate amount to apply or divide 50 by the percent of nitrogen (first number on the bag) to determine how many pounds of fertilizer should be applied over a 1000 square foot area. Be sure to measure your square footage accurately so as not to over or under apply nutrients. If weeds are a problem, hand pull those that have started setting seed. Chemicals are generally less effective at this later stage of development.

October

If winter weeds were a problem last year, get ready to treat problematic areas with a pre-emergent herbicide beginning in early October when air temperatures reach 65-70°F for 4-5 consecutive days. The cooler weather triggers weed seed germination and applying a herbicide product (such as weed-n-feed) in September, will be ineffective. If you need help selecting the best herbicide for your weeds that won't harm the grass, please contact the Extension Office for advice (904-259-3520).

Some common winter weeds are:

(Click on the each name for more information and management recommendations.)

Common Chickweed



[Annual Bluegrass](#)



[Burweed](#)

Also check out:

[Non-chemical Weed Control for Home Landscapes and Gardens](#)

Upper left: Close up photo of the burrs (seeds) that cause painful pricks. Credit: Alicia Lamborn, UF/IFAS Extension

Lower right: Leaves and fruiting head. Credit: Joseph M. DiTomaso, University of California – Davis, Bugwood.org

Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:
Shaina
Spann,
4-H Agent



YOUTH SHOWING ANIMALS AT THE FAIR THINGS TO REMEMBER

For the Week of the Fair

- Label all of your belongings
- Care for your animal all week
- Respect others' animals & their belongings
- If you see someone struggling, lend a hand!

For the Show (All Youth Exhibiting Animals)

- Need your 4-H attire. (White collared shirt, dark jeans, and 4-H clover patch)

- Look your best!
- Support others who are showing

For the Sale (Youth Showing Market Animals)

- 4-H Attire
- Thank you gift/basket for buyer
- Thank you letters to buyers and add-ons turned in to 4-H office by November 30th or fair board will deduct \$.



2021 Baker County Fair Schedule

Tuesday, September 7, 2021

3pm-7pm: Home & Creative Arts Check-in

Wednesday, September 8, 2021

3pm-7pm: Home, Creative Arts, Baked Goods and Candies Check-in

Thursday, September 9, 2021

7:30-8:15am: Baked Goods & Candies Check-in
6:30pm: Table Setting & Menu Planning Contest

Friday, September 10, 2021

3:00-5:30 pm: Check-in/Weigh-in for open show swine, cows, poultry, goats, and rabbits.

Saturday, September 11, 2021

6:00pm: Youth Goat Showmanship
Following Goat Showmanship, Open Swine Show
After 10:00pm: Release for swine not in Market show

Sunday, September 12, 2021

2:00-4:30 pm: Market Swine Final Weigh-in
5:30pm: Market Animal Exhibitor & Parent Meeting

Monday, September 13, 2021

4:00pm: Poultry Judging (poultry barn will be closed to everyone)
6:00pm: Poultry Showmanship

7:00pm: Youth Rabbit Show (immediately after poultry showmanship)

7:00pm: Market Animal Record Books Due to the Livestock Office

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

6:00pm: Youth Goat Show
Following Goat Show: Youth Registered Beef Show
Following Beef Show: Commercial Heifer Show
Following Commercial Heifer Show: Market Steer Show

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

6:00pm: Market Swine Show

Thursday, September 16, 2021

5:00pm: Market Animal Buyers' Dinner **4-H Families bring a HOMEMADE dessert**

Friday, September 17, 2021

No Shows, but your animals still need to be cared for!

Saturday, September 18, 2021

All exhibit (not market) animals are released after 10:00pm

Sunday, September 19, 2021

2:00-4:00 pm: Home, Creative Arts, Baked Goods, and Candies **pick-up only**

**4-H Project Reports Are Due To
The 4-H Office September 24,
2021 by 5:00 p.m.**

4-H Club Meetings & Events

- **Cloverleaf Cloggers** : TBD
- **Baker's Busy Bees**: September 21, 2021 6:00 p.m. Classroom @ Extension Office
- **Livestock Club**: Fair; No Meeting



Cool Season Forage Blends for Grazing

Are you looking to plant cool season forages this year to graze your livestock instead of feeding hay during the winter season? Consider utilizing a blend of species in order to maximize grazing length over the season, optimize available nutrients, and ensure you have a successful, grazeable crop despite problems that may arise. Typically cool season forages should be fertilized with 100 lbs of nitrogen, split over two applications, but complete a soil test to ensure this is the optimal amount for your land.

Small Grains Blend– Drilled

Cereal Rye 40%, Oats 40%, Wheat 10%, Triticale 10%.

This mix provides some late season production and offers a cut on price due to the inexpensive cost of wheat seeds. Oats are palatable and can be grazed earlier than rye, however it is susceptible to freeze injury and rust diseases. Cereal rye is more cold tolerant and produces more forage than oat or wheat. Utilizing this blend offers protection from losing the whole crop by mixing species which compliment each others strengths and make up for potential weaknesses.

Small Grains, Grass, & Legume Mix

Cereal Rye 30%, Oats 30%, Annual Ryegrass 25%, Crimson Clover 15%

This mix provides the benefit of palatable small grains like cereal rye and oats, the production of ryegrass, and the nitrogen fixing + additional protein of clover. Similar to other mixes, these species are chosen to protect the producer (you) from losing the entire stand in the event of freeze or plant disease. Utilizing clovers can help reduce nitrogen fertilizer costs. Note there is a difference of cereal rye and annual ryegrass.

Broadcasting Mix

Annual Ryegrass 80%, Clovers 20%

This mix is an option for those who need to broadcast spread seed due to not having a seed drill available. There is no harm in broadcasting seed, but for optimal success we need to utilize blends that ensure us the best germination potential with this planting method. Ryegrass and clover seeds have a very shallow planting depth and therefore producers often have high germination rates when broadcast spreading. It would be beneficial to drag or pack the seeds after planting with this method.

Late Fall, Early Winter Grazing

Annual Ryegrass 20%, Cereal Rye 20%, Oats 20%, Brassicas 30%

Brassicas (like turnips, radishes, or rape) prefer the warmer months in early fall and therefore their inclusion offers the producer to start grazing winter plots early. This is especially beneficial in newly established pastures as we want to provide our livestock with another forage to avoid over-grazing the summer perennials as they go into dormancy. The use of tuber producers like Daikon Radish or Turnips helps break up soil compaction and improve soil health as well.

Florida's Native Flora & Fauna

By: Alicia Lamborn, Environmental Horticulture Agent

Featuring some of Florida's native flora (plant life) and fauna (animal life) so you can learn to recognize, appreciate, and protect native species. We'll also aim to dispel myths and provide tips for managing conflicts with wildlife.

American Beautyberry

The American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) is a native, deciduous shrub that grows in flatwoods, hammocks, and naturalized gardens throughout Florida, the southeastern United States and beyond. In the landscape, it is an excellent native plant for attracting birds which eat the fruit.

Reaching up to 8 feet tall and wide, the long, arching branches of older specimens almost take on a weeping habit. Plants can be trimmed to maintain size, although pruning should occur prior to flowering.



Pale lavender-pink blossoms appear in spring and early summer along the branches, which mature into shiny purple fruits by September. The small, showy fruits form clusters that encircle the stems. If not devoured first by birds, the fruits will persist for several weeks after the plant drops its leaves. There's also a variety of *C. americana* called 'Lactea' that has white, pearlescent fruit.

If you've ever heard about old-timers tucking a cut branch of American Beautyberry in their belt or horse saddle while riding, that's because this plant has long been thought to repel biting insects. And recently this was proven when scientists isolated the compounds that enable the plant's crushed leaves to repel mosquitoes. Furthermore, additional research by the USDA suggests this old-time mosquito remedy may also work on blacklegged ticks which are the principal carrier of Lyme disease.

Add this plant to your Florida landscape any time of year, giving it plenty of room to grow in a partial sun location. While moderately drought tolerant once established, irrigation during periods of drought may be beneficial in sandy soils.

Adapted and excerpted from: [Beautyberry](#); [CALLICARPA AMERICANA: AMERICAN BEAUTYBERRY](#); and [ars.usda.gov](#) Photo credits: University of Florida

Pygmy Rattlesnake

Florida is home to about 50 species of native snakes, six of which are venomous (snakes are not poisonous—"poisonous" refers to something that is toxic when ingested).

Pygmy rattlesnakes are the smallest of Florida's venomous snake species. Adults rarely exceed 20 inches in length. Pygmy rattlesnakes range throughout the state and occur in many different habitats that include pine flatwoods, oak scrub, and palm hammocks. Instead of laying eggs, this snake gives birth to live young. Their diet includes insects, frogs, lizards, small snakes, nestling birds, and mice.

Pygmy rattlesnakes have a dark facial band that runs from each eye to the rear of the jaw. Their bodies are covered with numerous dark blotches with a row of darker blotches running down the middle of the snake's back. Usually a series of reddish-brown marks can be seen between the blotches on the back.



The rattle on the tip of the tail of this species is so small that it cannot be heard even when shaken vigorously by the snake. Pygmy rattlesnakes will often hold their ground if approached. They will bob their head and strike into the air if they feel threatened.

Tips for Safety around Venomous Snakes and Their Habitats

- Avoid wetland edges and other habitats that may harbor snakes
- Stay alert around wetlands and in thick brush
- Erect barriers to exclude snakes
- Keep grass mowed
- Remove brush piles
- Do not harass or attempt to kill a venomous snake
- Wear jeans and leather gloves while gardening
- Wear close-toe shoes when hiking in the woods

Adapted and excerpted from: [RECOGNIZING FLORIDA'S VENOMOUS SNAKES](#); Photo credit: Steve A. Johnson, U.S. Geological Survey

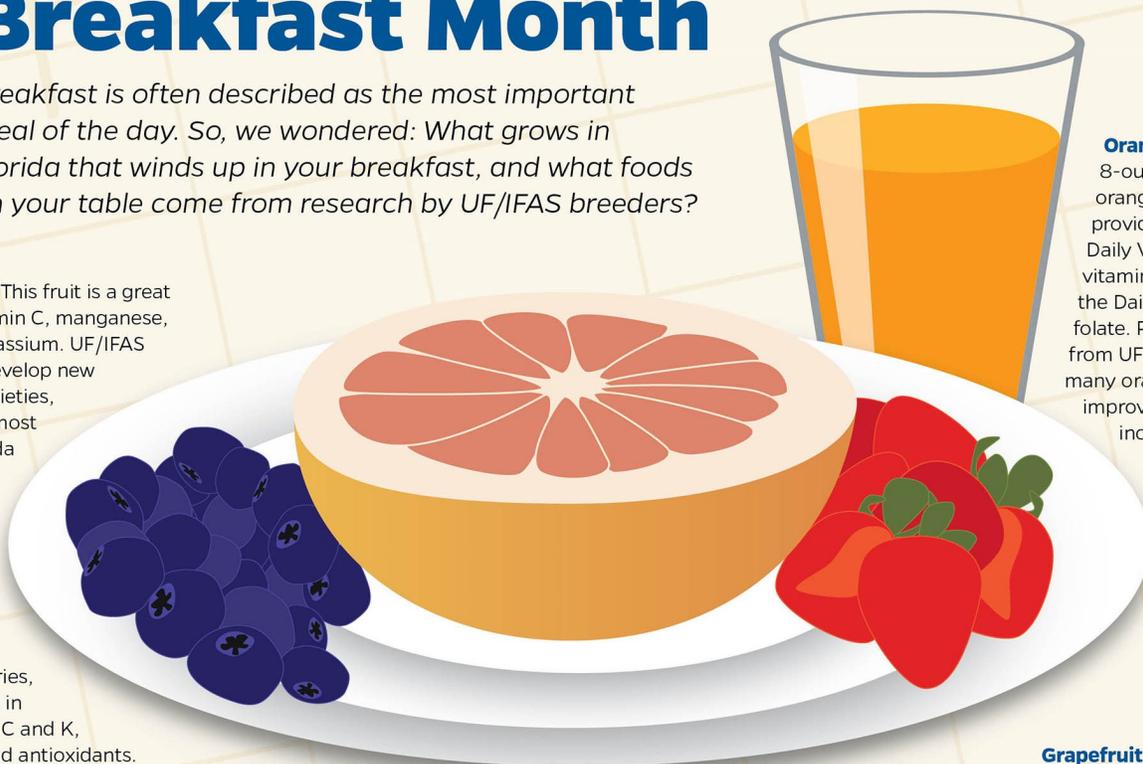
Extension Tidbits

September is National Better Breakfast Month

Breakfast is often described as the most important meal of the day. So, we wondered: What grows in Florida that winds up in your breakfast, and what foods on your table come from research by UF/IFAS breeders?

Strawberries: This fruit is a great source of vitamin C, manganese, folate and potassium. UF/IFAS researchers develop new strawberry varieties, including the most recent - 'Florida Brilliance.'

Blueberries: UF/IFAS scientists also breed blueberries, which are high in fiber, vitamins C and K, manganese and antioxidants. They also provide proven benefits for human health when consumed on a regular basis. UF/IFAS plant breeders have developed many blueberries through the years, including the popular 'Kestrel,' 'Arcadia' and 'Emerald' varieties.



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Orange juice: An 8-ounce glass of orange juice provides 120% of the Daily Value for vitamin C, and 15% of the Daily Value for folate. Researchers from UF/IFAS* breed many oranges to improve juice quality, including the varieties OLL-8 and OLL-4, named after the late Orle Lee, a longtime Florida citrus grower.

Grapefruit: This tangy fruit contains fiber, vitamins A and C, and carbohydrates. UF/IFAS researchers have also developed new varieties of grapefruit and pummelos, including UF-914, a new variety that is loved by people who find traditional grapefruit too sour and bitter.

*Facts About Vitamins, UF/IFAS publication FCS8808, <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fy890>

Check out [Fresh from Florida breakfast recipes:](#)

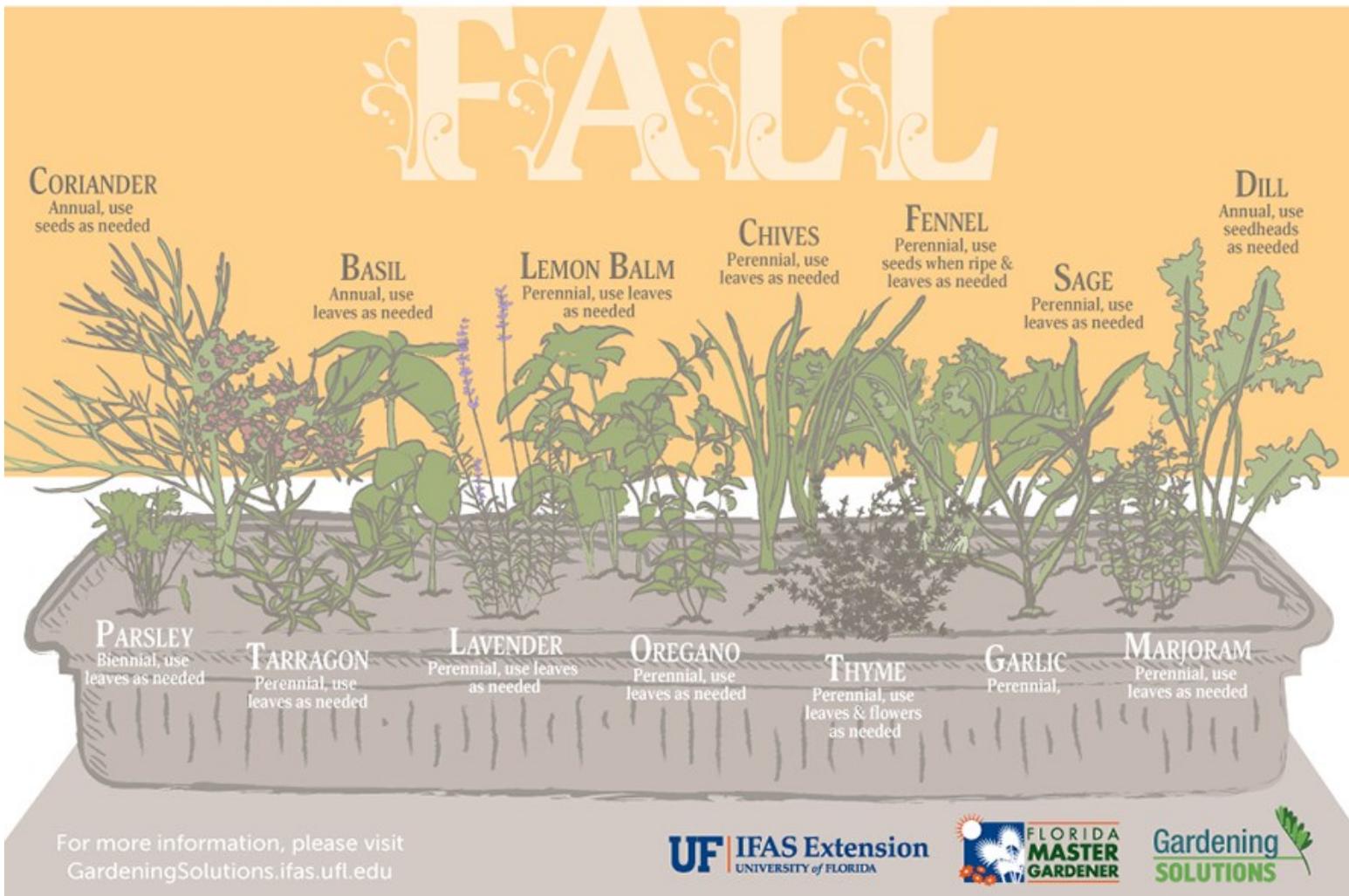
[Florida No-Bake Energy Bites](#)

[Florida Egg & Vegetable Bake](#)

[Florida Vegetable Frittata](#)

[Florida Purple Sweet Potato Hash](#)

Plant These Herbs



Herbs are plants grown for their special aromas and flavors. Most herbs are easy to grow and will do well under the same conditions of sunlight and soil as vegetables. Learn more about growing, preserving, and cooking with herbs:

[Herbs in the Florida Garden](#)

(learn how to grow your favorite herbs)

[Preserving Herbs and Spices](#)

(dried, fresh/frozen, and herbal vinegars)

[Cooking with Fresh Herbs](#)

(includes recipes plus how to make your own seasonings)



Baker County Fair

Home Arts & Horticulture Exhibits



Home Arts

★ Entries in the home arts division are open to all professional and non-professional adults, youth, and the exceptionally challenged. ★ All articles displayed must be the work of the individual exhibitor, completed within the past 12 months. ★ No articles will be accepted for judging that have previously been exhibited at the Baker County Fair. ★ Exhibitors are required to deliver their own entries to the fair unless prior arrangements are made with a superintendent. ★ Rules concerning number of entries in categories have changed and are specified in the respective division listings. ★ Reasonable care will be exercised to safeguard the articles left for display, but the Baker County Fair Association will assume NO responsibility for the damage or loss of articles exhibited. ★

 **CHECK-IN will be:**

Tuesday, September 7 @ 3 pm to 7 pm AND
Wednesday, September 8 @ 3 pm to 7 pm

Baked goods and candies will be accepted:
Wednesday, September 8 @ 3 pm to 7 pm AND
Thursday, September 9 @ 7:30 am to 8:15 am

 **PICK-UP time will be:**

Sunday, September 19 @ 2 pm to 4 pm ONLY

Any article not claimed at the appropriate time for pick-up will be donated to charity and the exhibitor's premium for that item is forfeited.

**Questions may be directed to:
Nancy Masterson 962-4937**

Horticulture

★ Competition is open to all growers of ornamental plants (adult and youth). ★ Exhibitors will be limited to 15 entries. Exhibitors may enter more than one entry in each class but not more than one of the same species, cultivar, or variety. ★ Entries must be brought in by the Exhibitor. ★ Each entry must be labeled with common or botanical name if known. The show committee will assist with identification if needed. ★ All plants and containers should be cleaned and groomed. Any plant with obvious signs of disease or insects will be disqualified from judging. ★ All entries must have been grown by the exhibitor and in his or her possession for at least three months prior to the Fair. ★ The Baker County Master Gardeners will care for your plants while on display, but they as well as the Baker County Fair Association will assume NO responsibility for the damage or loss of plants exhibited. ★

 **CHECK-IN will be:**

Tuesday, September 7 @ 12 pm to 7 pm AND
Wednesday, September 8 @ 9 am to 3 pm.

 **PICK-UP time will be:**

Sunday, September 19 @ 2pm to 5pm ONLY

Any plant not claimed at the appropriate time for pick-up will be donated to charity and the exhibitor's premium for that item is forfeited.

**Questions may be directed to:
Alicia Lamborn 259-3520**

Note: It is the participant's responsibility to read all rules and procedures.
For more information, please visit the Baker County Fair website at: <https://www.bakercountyfair.com/>