

Highlights in

Horticulture

Baker County

September 2014

Dear Extension Friends,

It is almost fair time and you know what that means...time to get your potted plants ready to show off! If you've never shown a plant in the horticulture exhibit, we'd love to have you join us this year. Qualifying is easy and the event is meant to be a learning experience for all who participate. Check out the details on page 2 and call Dr. Brown here at the office if you have questions.

Best Regards,

Alicia

Alicia R. Lamborn
Horticulture Extension Agent
Baker County Extension Service

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County Garden Spot

Like us on Facebook and stay connected to the Baker County Extension Office!

You'll receive weekly gardening tips, timely reminders on what to do in your garden, plus notices on upcoming classes, workshops and events!

You'll also be able to comment on articles, ask questions, and test your knowledge with featured quiz questions!

[https://www.facebook.com/
UFIFASBakerCountyGardenSpot](https://www.facebook.com/UFIFASBakerCountyGardenSpot)

**Need Gardening Advice?
Call the Plant Doctor!**

Dr. Kyle Brown, a retired horticulture professor, is available to assist residents with their plant questions and problems.

The Baker County Extension Office can also provide printed information at no charge on just about any subject.

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

Phone: (904) 259-3520

Email: bakermg@ifas.ufl.edu

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

Baker County Fair—September 26th to October 4th



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 or trim leaves with holes and dead tips is usually necessary before the show.
- 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 that are meant to hang), and **Patio Plants** (containers 14" or larger).

A few words about the judging procedures:

Many people get intimidated about showing plants at the fair, but really the entire process of showing at the fair is meant to be a fun, learning experience for all involved.

Round 1: The judges first look at each plant individually, judging it based on the shape of the plant, health of the plant, and general appearance when compared to the standard for that particular plant species (the standard is how that particular plant is supposed to look). This means the judges do not compare the plant to other plant species or even other plants of the same species in the show. Each plant is awarded a 1st (blue), 2nd (red), or 3rd (white) place ribbon and judges may write comments on your entry tag that they believe might help you score higher next year.

Round 2: The judges then go back through, paying special attention to only the blue ribbon plants. In this round, individual plants may be compared to each other since the judges are looking for plants of exceptional quality and may consider growing difficulty when placing 'Award of Merit' ribbons.

Round 3: The judges select a 'Best in Show' plant which stands out from all the other 'Award of Merit' winners.



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



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

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR HORTICULTURE ENTRIES:

Entries accepted: Tuesday, Sept. 23rd from 4pm-8pm & Wednesday, Sept. 24th from 9am—Noon

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

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

Fairgrounds Address: 5567 Lauramore Rd, Macclenny

Questions? Call Cindy Jenkins, Horticulture Chairperson @ 259-9517 or Dr. Kyle at 259-3520 from 1-5pm (M-F)





UF/IFAS Baker County Extension

2014 Strawberry Fundraiser



Strawberries should be planted during the fall months of October and November! The shorter days and cooler nights of winter initiate flower formation and the fruit is ready for harvest about a month after flowers are formed. The plants will withstand our freezing temperatures, but protecting early blossoms can provide fruit as early as January.

While strawberries are traditionally planted in rows, there are many other space-saving ways to grow them which include hanging baskets, containers, grow boxes, buckets and strawberry barrels. Growing strawberries in these alternative systems also makes it convenient when cold weather arrives since these can easily be moved to a warmer location to protect developing flowers and fruit.

Our strawberry fundraiser features a new variety this year: 'Chandler'

- Introduced by the University of California in 1984
- Plants are very cold tolerant down to 10 degrees F.
- Fruit are large, juicy, with deep red color throughout
- Has become a homeowner favorite due to intense flavor
 - Suitable for eating fresh, canning or freezing
 - Well-suited for North Florida gardens

STRAWBERRY PLANT ORDER FORM

'Chandler' Plants	Cost	No. of Bundles	Total
10 plants	\$5.00		
50 plants	\$20.00		
	(Pay @ Pickup) Total		

- All purchases come with planting and growing instructions.
- Funds support local educational gardening programs and activities.
- Pre-Order Your Plants Today — We Will Call You Upon Delivery for Pick-Up — Estimated Delivery is Mid-October
- Plants are subject to availability. Pre-orders are reserved but un-claimed orders will be re-sold.

Customer Name:

Phone:

**You may call
(904) 259-3520 to place
an order by phone or...**

Deliver Order Form to:
Strawberry Fundraiser
Baker County Extension
1025 W. Macclenny Ave.
Macclenny, FL 32063
Fax: 904-259-9034



Fruit Tree Calendar: September

All fertilizer recommendations are for optimum growth and production. Applying less fertilizer is also acceptable, but the total amount should not exceed these recommendations.

Citrus: Last month to fertilize citrus. Refer to the table below for fertilizer recommendations.

Loquats: Fertilize this month using 6-6-6, only as needed.

Persimmons: Mid-season cultivars are ready to harvest this month. In general, crops can remain on the tree a month after marketable color develops, becoming softer with greater colors and sugar.



Persimmons: Apply last of three applications of fertilizer early this month; fertilize using 1/2 to 1 pound (1-2 cups) of 10-10-10 with micro-nutrients per year of age. All three applications should not exceed 10-15 pounds (20-30 cups) per year and therefore no more than 10 cups per application.

Pineapple Guava: Fruit ripens this month and is ready for harvest.



Pineapple Guava

Table 1: Citrus Fertilization Table



Tree Age	Cups of Fertilizer per Application			Applications per year
	6-6-6	8-8-8	10-10-10	
1	.5-1.5 cups	.5-1.25 cups		6
2	2-4 cups	1.5-3 cups		5
3	3.5-7 cups	2.75-5.5 cups		4
4	8.5-11.25 cups	6.5-8.25 cups	5.25-6.5 cups	3
5+	12-15.5 cups	9-11.5 cups	7.25-9.25 cups	3

**Year 1 starts at planting.*



Baker County Extension Service

1025 West Macclenny Avenue
Macclenny, FL 32063



Phone: (904) 259-3520

Email: alamborn@ufl.edu

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

For Extension Programs offered around the state, see the IFAS Extension Web Calendar at <http://calendar.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar/index.htm>.

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 ten (10) 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).