Dear Extension Friends,

Spring has arrived in Northeast Florida and now is the time for managing your lawn, garden, hay field, or forage area. Homeowners and hobbyists will enjoy our Annual Spring Garden Festival to be held on Saturday, April 2nd. Alicia and our Master Gardeners will be on hand with plants for sale and answers to your questions. There will also be many vendors with various products for sale, so please stop by. Forage and hayfield owners should take a look at page 7 for weed control options. Finally, 4-Hers should take a look at page 6 for camp information. As always, if we can help you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Davis
Director / Agriculture Agent
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County

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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)

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Plant of the Month:
Angelonia, the Summer Snapdragon

Angelonia is a heat tolerant plant that flowers throughout the season, making it a great choice for flower beds and containers in the Florida summer garden.

Often called "summer snapdragon," angelonia produces numerous snapdragon-like flowers that come in white, pink, lavender, or purple, depending on the cultivar. Angelonia also makes a good cut flower, lasting for a long time and producing a pleasant grape-soda scent.

For best performance, plant angelonia in late spring in a spot that receives full sun and has moist, well-drained soil. Once established, these plants can be quite drought-tolerant, especially if the soil is rich in organic material and a layer of mulch has been added.

Fertilize the plants with a light, monthly application of a 10-5-10 fertilizer or similar mix, but be careful not to overfertilize or the plants will produce more leaves and less flowers. Plants eventually reach 18-24 inches tall.

The plant will typically behave as a perennial in Florida, unless exposed to a cold winter. It is often problem-free, but can sometimes develop powdery mildew or suffer from aphid infestations.

Photos and information from: http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/plants/ornamentals/angelonia.html
Join Us On Facebook!
Stay connected to the Baker County Extension Office through Facebook to receive weekly gardening tips and notifications on upcoming classes and events!

**UF/IFAS Baker County Garden Spot**
https://www.facebook.com/UFIFASBakerCountyGardenSpot

**Baker County 4-H**
https://www.facebook.com/bakerco4h

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**Master Gardener Volunteer Training Course**
If you live in Baker County and enjoy helping others, the Baker County Master Gardener Program could be for you.

The Extension Office provides extensive training for volunteers who provide service to the community in return.

In 2015, training classes were held on Tuesdays and Thursdays for 6 hours a day during a 4-week period. A similar schedule is planned for the 2016 training.

Submit an interest form online and a program representative will contact you to discuss the details: [http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/master_gardener.html](http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/master_gardener.html)
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.
Upcoming Programs & Events

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

April 2
Spring Garden Festival, 9:00am to 2:00pm, UF/IFAS Extension Baker County, 1025 W. Macclenny Ave, Macclenny, FL. See page 2 for details. New vendors welcome. Call (904) 259-3520 for more info.

May 21
4-H Public Auction Dinner and silent auction begin at 6pm; live auction begins at 6:30pm. $8 dinner and free public auction, held in the Agricultural Center Auditorium. For more information or if you have items to donate, please contact Shaina Spann, 4-H Extension Agent at slbennett@ufl.edu or (904) 259-3520.

Lunch - n - Learn Gardening Series

Join the County Horticulture Agent during your lunch break to learn about gardening!

When: 4th Tuesday of April – May – June @ 12:15pm to 12:45pm
Where: Baker County Extension Office (Ag Center) Classroom, 1025 W. Macclenny Ave, Macclenny, FL

April 26th
Repairing a Damaged Lawn

May 24th
Tips for Maintaining a Healthy Landscape

June 28th
Managing Pests & Nematodes

RSVP to ensure class materials: 904-259-3520
Website: http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu
Facebook: UF IFAS Baker County Garden Spot

4-H Club Meetings

Baker Creation Explorers—3rd Thursday of the month at 4:30pm in the 4-H Classroom.

Cloverleaf Cloggers — New location! Every Monday at 7pm at Baker County Extension in 4-H Classroom

Livestock Club — 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm in Auditorium

See page 6 for more upcoming 4-H events

Important 4-H Livestock Event

MANDATORY LIVESTOCK ANIMAL ORIENTATION MEETING
AG CENTER AUDITORIUM
April 7th — 6:30pm-7:30pm
April 26th — Immediately Following Livestock Club Meeting
Upcoming 4-H Events

April
7– Mandatory Livestock Animal Orientation Meeting—Ag Center Auditorium
9-14– National 4-H Conference
15-17– Third Executive Board, senior 4-H’ers, Camp Cherry Lake
26- Mandatory Livestock Animal Orientation Meeting– After Livestock Club Meeting—Ag Center Auditorium
30– District Events, Glen Baptist Church

May
02– 4-H Legislature Reg. CLOSES
14– Tailgate BBQ Contest, Gainesville, ages 13+ (GET WITH MRS. SHAINA ASAP IF YOU WANT TO PARTICIPATE)

16– Auction Items DUE
20-22– Intermediate State

21– 4-H Auction, 6:00 pm
26- STEM Fair 6-7 pm

31- Livestock Animal Commitment Forms DUE, NO EXCEPTIONS

June
04– Counselor Training, 10 am-3 pm, Camp Cherry Lake
06– Camp Cherry Lake Orientation, 6:30, Auditorium
13-17– Camp Cherry Lake
21-24- Buggin’ Out with 4-H Day Camp
27-July 01– 4-H Legislature, Tallahassee
30-July01– Dancing with the Clovers Day Camp

July
01- 4-H Bug Collection Registration Due
11-15- PB&J Day Camp
18-21- Kitchen Chemistry: The Science of Baking Day Camp
25-29- 4-H University, Gainesville

Birthdays for April:
Wishing you all a Happy Birthday!
02- Calla Rungruang
04- Savannah Pelfrey
13- Dakota Wilburn
15- Bailey Thomas
17- Kelsi Sands
18- Hannah Sluski
20- Rex Rungruang
21- Hamp Craft
22- Madison Lagle
24- Kaleb Lewis
28- Presley Turner

Reminders:
The mandatory Livestock Animal Orientation Meeting is April 7th, 2016
From 6:30pm-7:30pm in the auditorium and
April 26th, immediately following the Livestock Club meeting.
If you do not attend these meetings you cannot participate in a livestock project.

Camp Cherry Lake 2016
4-H age 8+ (as of 9/1/15) Must be 4-H member as of 4/1.

Early registration due May 23: Member $215; Non-Member $250
Late registration after May 23: Member $240; Non-Member $275

Camp Orientation: June 6th at 6:30 pm, Ag Center Auditorium.
Payment plans available upon request. Deadline to register: June 6th
Spring Weeds in Northeast Florida

Spring has definitely arrived in Northeast Florida; and an increase in temperature will cause an increase in weeds in your hay or forage area. Listed below are four of the most common Spring weeds seen in our area and tips for control. Always remember that if you are using herbicides for weed control to follow the directions on the label. If you have questions about a particular herbicide, please contact our office.

**Tropical Soda Apple**

Tropical Soda Apple (TSA) is a rapidly spreading weed that can take over a pasture in as little as a year. Plants are 2-3 feet tall at maturity with broad, pointed-lobed leaves. Fruit from TSA are round and yellow as they mature. GrazonNext HL is effective against emerged plants and will provide some pre-emergent control for seedlings up to 6 months after application. **THERE ARE HAYING AND GRAZING RESTRICTIONS FOR THIS HERBICIDE. MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW THE LABEL.**

**Prickly Pear Cactus**

Prickly pear is a common name for several species of cactus. The problem is not wide-spread, but emergence of this plant can devastate a pasture if it is allowed to establish. **MOWING IS INEFFECTIVE AS PADS THAT ARE REMOVED FROM THE PARENT PLANT CAN ESTABLISH ROOTS AND FORM NEW COLONIES.** Control of this plant is achieved with a mixture of Remedy Ultra (20%) and basal oil (80%). This mixture is applied as a spot treatment directly to the pads. Note that grass in the area will show some burn, but can recover. Control is typically slow and can take up to one year.

**Dogfennel**

Dogfennel is an aggressive native plant that can be a problem in un-improved or overgrazed pastures. The leaves of the plant contain small amounts of the toxin tremitol, which can cause dehydration in livestock. Seeds typically sprout and grow when soil temperatures reach 65°F. Control of dogfennel can be achieved by two herbicides: 1) Weedmaster—apply when plants reach 12-18 inches in height; this herbicide is most effective when plants are transitioning from winter dormancy, 2) Pasturegard HL—use this herbicide if plants have reached heights of 40 inches or more.

**Florida Pusley**

Florida Pusley plants typically grow creeping along the ground and have hairy stems that can grow up to 30 inches in length. Leaves typically have a rough upper and lower surface. The plant has small, white flowers that cluster at the ends of the stems. Control of this weed can be achieved using GrazonNext HL by itself or in combination with Pasturegard HL.
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).

**Herb Resources:**

*Herbs in the Florida Garden*
https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh020

*Cooking with Fresh Herbs*
https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fy1209

*Veggies and Herbs Made in the Shade*
http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu.hs1228

*Shopping for Health: Herbs and Spices*
https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fs225