Dear Extension Friends,

Celebrate the arrival of spring with us during our annual Spring Garden Festival on April 1, and plan to attend some of the many great programs and events scheduled in the upcoming months. If you are looking for plant recommendations, fertilizing information, weed management suggestions, details on getting involved with 4-H, or looking to become a Master Gardener Volunteer, be sure to check out all of the great information found on our webpage, or contact us directly for personalized service.

Sincerely,

Alicia Lamborn
Interim Director / Horticulture Agent
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County

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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Agriculture Agent

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Highlights in Horticulture

By: Alicia Lamborn, Horticulture Agent

Sneak Peak
Master Gardener Plant Sale @ Spring Garden Festival

Verbena ‘Homestead Purple’
Pollinator-friendly perennial groundcover — 6-8” tall — full sun
Purple flower clusters spring to fall — evergreen in our butterfly garden

Lantana ‘Miss Huff’
Pollinator-friendly perennial — 4-6’ tall and wide — Full sun
Flowers change from orange to pink spring to frost — Sterile variety

Sweetspire ‘Henry’s Garnet’
Flowering shrub — 3-4’ tall, 4-6’ wide — Partial shade or sun — White
flower clusters May-June last for weeks — Red fall color — Thrives in moist
soils, but adapts to dry conditions; prune after flowering

Amaryllis
Flowers are light red with white throat — Full sun or light shade — Plant 12 to
15 inches apart with the neck of the bulb protruding above ground

Salvia ‘Indigo Spires’
Pollinator-friendly perennial — a dependable butterfly/bee magnet
Purple-blue flowers — blooms spring through fall — beautiful when mass
planted — 2’ tall, 2-3’ wide — drought tolerant

Pineapple Guava
Flowering shrub or small tree — Evergreen — 15’ tall & wide
Full sun to partial shade — Edible flowers & fruit — Flowers in spring,
fruit ripens Aug-Oct — needs cross-pollination

Japanese Butterfly Bush
Pollinator-friendly shrub — 6-12’ tall & wide — Lavender flowers spring and
summer — Full sun or light shade — Drought and heat tolerant —
Very hardy — Semi evergreen — Weeping habit
UF/IFAS Extension
Baker County

presents

9th annual

Spring Garden Festival

Held in the Arboretum & Gardens
1025 W. Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny FL

Saturday, April 1, 2017
9 am - 2 pm

plant sale

KIDS Activities

gardening EXHIBITS

FREE ENTRY

Florida-Friendly Landscaping ADVICE

FRUIT ORCHARD TOURS @ 10 & 11

The Foundation for the Gator Nation
An Equal Opportunity Institution
# April 2017

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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 1
9th Annual Spring Garden Festival, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Baker County Extension Arboretum & Gardens (Ag Center), 1025 West Macclenny Ave. Baker County Master Gardeners will offer plants for sale, Florida-Friendly Landscaping advice, fruit orchard tours and free kids activities. Additional vendors will have flowering plants, vegetable starts, gardening books, handmade art, lemonade, and more! Free entry. Call 259-3520 for more information.

April 8
Hydroponic Gardening for the Homeowner, 8:15 am to 12:15 pm, Suwannee Valley Agricultural Extension Center, Live Oak, FL. Topics include: Floating Hydroponics and Hydroponic Bucket Garden, Growing Your Own Transplants, Growing in Vertical Systems, Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Register online at www.2017HomeownerHydro.eventbrite.com or call Dan Fenneman (850-973-4138) or Dilcia Toro (386-362-1725) for more information.

May 6
Baker County 4-H Auction & Dinner, 6:00 pm, Baker County Agricultural Center Auditorium, 2015 West Macclenny Ave. Public Auction & Dinner to benefit Baker County 4-H. Items donated from businesses and individuals includes: theme park tickets, gift baskets, plants, arts and crafts, gift cards, tools, and more! Free entry and $5 Taco Dinner will be available to purchase. If you would like to donate an auction item, please call 259-3520.

May 13
Ag Heritage Day, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, Heritage Park, 102 South Lowder Street, Macclenny, FL. Sponsored by Baker County 4-H Livestock Club. Live band, farm petting zoo, agriculture information, local business and food vendors, and more! $3 entry per person. $1 entry fee for Mothers.

May 19
Pollinator Workshop, 10:00 am to Noon, Baker County Extension Office (Ag Center), 1025 West Macclenny Ave. Topics include: Florida’s native bees and other pollinators; Pollinator plants for your garden; DIY native bee nest boxes. Registration cost is $20 per person and includes materials for your own “make and take” native bee house similar to the one shown. Register at the Baker County Extension Office. For more information, please call 904-259-3520.

4-H Club Meetings

Cloverleaf Cloggers — Every Monday at 7pm in the auditorium. Contact your club leader to confirm.

Livestock Club — Fourth Tuesday of each month at 6pm in the auditorium. Contact club leader to confirm.

SPIN Club — Pallet Project — For more information, go to Baker County 4-H All County Facebook Page. (See page 6)

New - Outdoors Club — For more information, go to Baker County 4-H Outdoors Club Facebook page. (See page 6)

The Mandatory Livestock Animal Orientation Meeting is TUESDAY, APRIL 4th (6:30pm-7:30pm) OR TUESDAY, APRIL 25th (after Livestock Club meeting) in the Auditorium. If you do not attend one of these meetings you cannot participate in a livestock project.
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**April**
- 01 – Spring Garden Festival, Arboretum, 9am -2pm
- 04 – Livestock Animal Orientation Meeting, 6:30pm-7:30pm
- 07 – STEM Fair, 4-H Classroom, 10am-12pm
- 13 – District Events, Union County High School, 6pm-8pm
- 14 – Office Closed, Good Friday
- 17-19 – Mrs. Shaina at Extension Symposium
- 24 – Registration for 4-H Legislature DUE
- 25 – Livestock Animal Orientation Meeting, after Livestock Club’s meeting
- 28 – Auction Items DUE

**May**
- 06 – Annual 4-H Auction, Auditorium, 6pm
- 10 – District Tailgate Competition Registration DUE
- 13 – Ag-Heritage Day, Heritage Park, 11am-3pm
- 20 – District Tailgate Competition, UF Horse Teaching Unit, 8am
- 20 – Camp Cherry Lake Counselor Training, Camp Cherry Lake, 10am-4:30pm
- 22 – Registration for Exploring 4-H Day Camp DUE
- 30 – Registration for Bee Day Camp DUE

**June**
- 05-08 – Exploring 4-H Day Camp, Auditorium, $60
- 06 – Camp Cherry Lake Registration DUE
- 12 – Camp Cherry Lake Orientation
- 12-15 – Bees: The Original Social Network Day Camp, Auditorium, $60
- 19-23 – Camp Cherry Lake, Madison Florida
- 26-30 – 4-H Legislature, Tallahassee

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**MANDATORY MEETING**

Livestock Animal Orientation Meeting

Tuesday, April 4th from 6:30pm-7:30pm
&
Tuesday April 25th after the Livestock Club meeting in the Auditorium.

If you do not attend one of these meetings you cannot participate in a livestock project.
Anyone interested in exhibiting an animal or showing a market animal is required to attend.

**Camp Counselor Training**

Training for counselors (ages 14+):

- Monday, May 1st, 6-7 pm, 4-H Classroom
- Saturday, May 20th, 10am-4:30pm at Camp Cherry Lake.

We need to leave the office by 8:15 am.

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**4th Annual 4-H Auction and Dinner—May 6, 2017**

Last year, with the help of our wonderful 4-H members, families, and volunteers, we raised almost $8,000 at the auction! This year should be our best one yet! Our theme is ‘Fiesta’ so expect to enjoy some awesome tacos and a great time! We are looking for items to put in our auction so if you or a business you know would like to donate please let us know!

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**Chance Drawing to Win**

- 4 Walt Disney World Park Hopper Passes
  - One ticket-$5
  - Five tickets- $20

Drawing will be held during the auction at 7:30pm. Value $650.
You do not have to be present to win.

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**Pallet Project SPIN Club** — To produce items to sell at auction. To find out more about this club, go to the Baker County 4-H All County Facebook Page.

**New - Outdoors Club** —
Leads: Daniella and Lance Bowman
Location: The Baker County Sheriff's Complex
Dates: April 22nd— 9 am-12 pm: Safety* & Range Time
May 06th—9 am –11 am: Range time
For more information, go to the Baker County 4-H Shooting Sports Facebook page. *Safety training is mandatory for all youth participants. *Closed toe shoes required for participation.

Need more information on 4-H clubs?
Contact the Baker County Extension Office at 259-3520

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**A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE BAKER COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE**

for donating the location and labor to have our outdoors club meetings!
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.
Baker County 4-HBenefit Auction & Dinner

Saturday, May 06, 2017
Dinner at 6:00pm
Auction starts at 6:30pm

DON’T SIESTA, JOIN OUR FIESTA!

$5 Taco Dinner
Agricultural Center Auditorium
1025 W Maccenney Ave.
32063