



The Baker Bulletin

A
Baker County
Extension
Service Monthly
Newsletter

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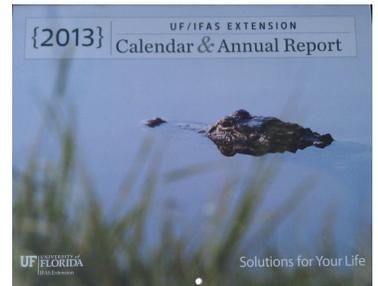
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Dear Extension Friends,

Welcome to 2013. We at the Extension Service are looking forward to another year of serving the citizens of Baker County in the areas of Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, Horticulture and 4-H Youth Development. We have many exciting programs planned for the year. We look forward to working with all of the good people in Baker County and we wish you and yours a Happy and Prosperous New Year. **Please don't forget to stop by our office for your UF/IFAS 2013 calendar.** As always, if we can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Davis
County Extension Director / Ag Agent
Baker County Extension Service



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)

Michael Davis, Ph.D.

Agriculture Agent



Alicia Lamborn

Horticulture Agent



Melanie Thomas

Family & Consumer
Sciences Agent



Shaina Bennett

4-H Agent



Highlights in Horticulture

By:

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*Alicia Lamborn,
Horticulture Agent*

Species Spotlight: Kumquats

Kumquat trees produce small, orange fruit with a unique “sweet-tart” flavor. Generally considered part of the citrus family, this is the only citrus that is meant to be eaten whole, including the peel, like a grape.

This evergreen tree is native to Southeast China and tropical Malaysia but is cultivated throughout the Gulf Coast region of the United States. Kumquats are very cold hardy, handling temperatures as low as 10°F, making them perfect for North Florida gardens. They grow best in full sun, eventually reaching heights of 15 feet, although they can tolerate some shade. Like other citrus, flowers are white and bloom in the spring, however blossoms are not as fragrant.

Kumquat fruits resemble miniature oranges that are generally not more than 2 inches in size. The fruit matures in October and the tree continues to produce fruits through March. Although both the pulp and rind are edible, some value these trees more for their ornamental quality since the bright orange fruit contrasts nicely with the dark green foliage. You can also grow them in containers when space is limited. And because kumquats generally require less care than other citrus trees, they make a good choice for gardeners with less time or experience who still desire an attractive and tasty citrus tree.

The two most popular varieties are 'Nagami' and 'Meiwa.' 'Nagami' produces oval fruit with fewer seeds (0-3), but is more acid than 'Meiwa'. 'Meiwa' produces round fruit with slightly more seeds (3-5), but has a nice spicy-sweet flavor. If you don't care for the taste when eaten fresh, the fruits can be made into preserves and jams. But a favorite of mine has to be Pat Collier's Kumquat Pie!



A 'Nagami' Kumquat tree, loaded with fruit.

Citrus Q&A

- Q: Which type of sweet citrus is most cold hardy?** A: The Satsuma (also called 'Satsuma Mandarin' or 'Satsuma Tangerine') is the most cold hardy sweet citrus. Mature, dormant trees have survived temperatures of 14°F to 18°F in North Florida. For more information on the Satsuma, visit <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ch116>
- Q: How should I protect my citrus from freezing temperatures?** A: You will want to protect the graft union during a freeze to prevent damage, especially if you have young citrus. To do this, you can bank clean sand around the base of the tree, use a special tree wrap product, or use foam pipe insulators. Covering trees with blankets or plastic is generally not recommended unless you can keep the cover off the foliage, and the cover can still reach the ground to trap in heat.
- Q: I heard that waiting to pick my oranges until after the first freeze makes them sweeter. Is this true?**
A: This is possible, but not a guarantee. Cold weather damage to an orange's skin can lead to water evaporation and therefore a higher concentration of sugar in the fruit. Just be sure to pick ripe fruit (fruit won't ripen once picked) prior to a hard freeze, since damage occurs when temperatures stay at 28°F or less from 4 hours.
- Q: Why does my orange tree only produce sour fruit?** A: Citrus trees grown from seed usually produce sour fruit. If your tree wasn't grown from seed, it perhaps got damaged by cold weather one year and has regrown shoots from below the graft union, resulting in sour fruit.

Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer Training



Master Food and Nutrition VOLUNTEER

Would you like to develop expertise in the area of food and nutrition and be able to share that expertise with others?

A Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer program is being offered by the Cooperative Extension Service, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. The program is designed to provide food and nutri-

tion training for selected individuals in Florida.

Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer is a title given to individuals who receive in-depth food and nutrition training from County Extension Family and Consumer Sciences Agents. In return participants agree to give volunteer service to their local County Extension Office during the next year.

The Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer training is an in-depth 9-week course and will be held at the Duval County Cooperative Extension Service on Wednesdays, beginning February 13, 2013 and ending April 11, 2013. Training sessions begin at 9:30 a.m. and last until 4:00 p.m. Training will include topics such as basic nutrition, nutrition and health throughout the lifecycle, food safety, food preparation, and the latest food preservation updates.

The Baker County Extension Office is accepting applications for volunteers at this time. If you are a resident of Baker or Bradford County, the program is open to you.

There will be a charge of \$75.00 to cover references and lab supplies for the course.

For further information about the program, please contact Melanie Thomas, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Agent at 904-259-3520 or via email at mlthomas@ufl.edu.



January 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 	16	17  	18	19
20	21	22 	23	24  	25  	26
27	28	29	30	31		FEB 5 

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.

Jan. 17



Tri-County Beef Update, 6:00pm to 8:30pm, New River Volunteer Fire Dept. Station 3, Bradford County FL. This workshop is designed for beef cattle producers in Northeast Florida. Topics will include: 1) Forage Quality, 2) Agriculture Damage Assessment and 3) a Beef Cattle Panel Discussion with Dr. Todd Thrift, UF/IFAS Extension Beef Cattle Specialist, Dr. Jason Ferrell, UF/IFAS Extension Weed Specialist and Mr. Tim Wilson, UF/IFAS Bradford County Extension Director. Registration for this event is \$5.00 per person and includes a meal. To register or for additional details, please contact either the Baker, Bradford or Union County Extension Office (904-259-3520, 904-966-6224, or 386-496-2321). Registration deadline is January 14, 2013.

Jan. 24



Tri-County Forage Update, 6:00pm to 8:30pm, Lake Butler Community Center, 155 NW 3rd St., Lake Butler, FL 32054. This program is designed for producers of forage in Northeast Florida. Topics include: 1) Forage Quality and 2) Forage Production & the Bermudagrass Stem Maggot. Registration for this event is free, but required as a meal will be served. To register or for additional details, please contact either the Baker, Bradford or Union County Extension Office (904-259-3520, 904-966-6224, or 386-496-2321). Registration deadline is January 21, 2013.

Jan. 25



Master Gardener Volunteer Applications Due! Training begins in February; 2013 Master Gardener Application Packets are available on our website (baker.ifas.ufl.edu) or from the Baker County Extension Office. Call 259-3520 for more info.



Jan. 25



Small Scale Mushroom Production, 8:30am to 4:30pm, Suwannee Valley Agricultural Extension Center, 8202 CR 417, Live Oak, FL 32060. This hands-on one-day workshop will teach participants how to select, grow, harvest and market mushrooms appropriate for Florida. Specific topics include: 1) Types of Shiitake and Oyster Mushrooms to Grow, 2) How to Prepare & Care for Inoculated Natural Logs, 3) How to Prepare & Care for Inoculated Synthetic Logs, 4) Harvesting, 5) Direct Market Options and 6) Supply Sources. Registration information and other details can be found at http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar/2013_0125_MushroomProduction.pdf or by contacting Sarah White (sewhite@ufl.edu or 386-362-1725, ext. 102)

Feb. 5



Tri-County Pesticide Update, 5:00pm to 9:00pm, Lake Butler Community Center, Lake Butler, FL. This program is for producers and clientele who hold restricted use pesticide licenses. A total of 4 CEUs (2 CORE + 2 Private Applicator/Ag Row) have been applied for. Registration for the event is \$10 per person and CEU forms will be given out at the close of the event. For additional details or to register, please contact either the Baker, Bradford or Union County Extension Offices (904-259-3520, 904-966-6224, 386-496-2321).

4-H Events & Club Meetings for January:

Club Leader Meeting—January 15th—Classroom—6:00pm

Cloverleaf Cloggers—January 8th and 22nd—Keller Intermediate—7:00pm

Cookin' Cats—January 17th—Classroom—6:00pm

Livestock Club—January 24th—Classroom—6:00pm

Horse Club—TBA—Contact Mary Pregler—904-259-5819



Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:

Shaina Bennett,
4-H Extension Agent

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Happy New Year!

It is a new year and with the new year comes new experiences, new goals, and best of all new memories. As we embark on the new year keep in mind of goals for not only yourself, but also your 4-H goals. Do you want to compete at county events and win an award? Would you want to do a service learning activity and have an impact on our community? With the opportunities that 4-H offers, the possibilities are endless!

A 4-H club plan really helps a club run smoothly. For club officers, you need to assist your members and leaders in developing your annual plan including your club goals, calendar of club meetings and detailed meeting plans. Involving your club members in planning your programs will be a key step in your success for the year.

The 4-H Club Planning Workbook is also the club recognition standards for 4-H clubs throughout the state. You, your members and leaders, may want to review this as you begin your planning if you want to excel and be recognized for your work.

Part of the expectations as you form a club, and each year following, is that you submit your club plans to the County Extension Office updating your club records as you re-enroll membership annually. This gives the 4-H staff a record of your club's planned activities and will help them help you.

Part of this plan might also be identifying community service project(s) you and your club members want to conduct this year. Be sure to include these on your calendar.

Every club, like ourselves, should have goals. Club goals: Begin your club year by establishing goals. Brainstorming and working as a group will help you get everyone engaged in planning for a successful year.

Examples of Club Goals:

- Enroll 5 new members
- Increase family participation
- Have 100% of members complete at least one project record.
- Have 100% of members participate in one community service-learning project.
- Have at least 50% of members give at least one demonstration or illustrated talk.

Next, as a group, plan the learning experiences, special activities, events like fundraising and community service events that

your members would like to do as a club for the year. Be sure to try to involve all members in some responsibilities throughout the year. With all this in mind, some really great new 4-H memories can be made this year!!

Source: Adapted from, 4-H Club Planning Workbook. Joy Jordan, Ph.D., associate professor, 4-H Youth Development, Dale Pracht, assistant professor, 4-H Youth Development, and Judy Butterfield, Extension Agent III, 4-H Youth Development, Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences, Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville 32611.

For more information on this go to:

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/4h013>



Us! www.facebook.com/bakerco4h



Did You Know:

4-H serves more than 6.5 million young people, 540,000 volunteers, 3,500 professionals and more than 60 million alumni!

Events:

Jan 11-12– Livestock & Meats Judging Clinic, Gainesville
Registration Due by Jan 3 \$15

Jan 15– Leader's Meeting 6:00 pm 4-H Classroom

Jan 26– Hog & Ham Workshop, Gainesville

Registration Due by Jan 23 \$5

Birthdays for January:

Wishing all of you a very **happy birthday** from the Baker County Extension Office!

Jan 02– Amanda Cruz

Jan 03– Megan Rhoden

Jan 06– Kyler Crews

Jan 17– Penny Davis

Jan 30– Harlee Williams

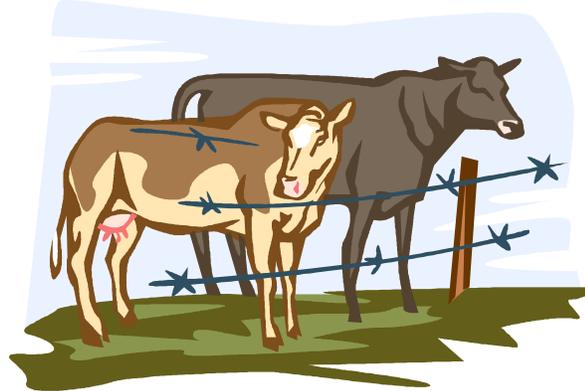
Looking for community service hours? Youth ages 13-18 that would like to earn community service hours for events, Please contact Ms. Shaina, Baker County 4-H Agent at 259-3520.



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OF RESPONSIBILITY

Cattle Nutrition Over the Winter Months

Winter feeding of cattle can account for up to 50% of the total variable cost of producing weaned calves. Cattle that are different developmental stages have differing nutritional needs throughout the year. Splitting the herd into groups that have similar nutritional requirements will help the producer meet the requirements and help to keep costs down by utilizing the most efficient feeding regimen. A general discussion of feeding these groups over the winter is presented below. There may also be constraints to splitting a herd, such as limited facilities and not every group that is mentioned below may be represented in your particular herd.



First and Second-Calf Heifers

Unlike mature cows, a heifer that is nursing her first or second calf is still growing herself. This additional growth along with the nutritional requirements for the calf require that these animals be placed on the highest quality feed that is available. Providing the adequate nutrition for these animals is essential for breeding later on and to encourage calf performance.

Replacement Heifers

Replacement heifers, including those that are bred and those that are open, should be a separate group within the herd. Those heifers that are going into their first winter within the new herd are at the low end of the social order within the herd. This can cause these animals to be crowded out of the feed area. Additionally, these cows tend to have a higher nutritional need than mature cows. Replacement heifers that are bred are similar to first- and second-calf heifers in that the quality of the feed needs to be such that she can continue her own growth along with that of the calf.

Mature/Dry/Pregnant Cows

If the body condition score of these animals indicate medium fleshing, then they will have the lowest nutritional requirements of the herd. Consequently, these cows can persist on lower quality feed such as: crop residue, mature standing grass or mature hay. For those mature cows that are pregnant, remember that the nutritional needs will increase during the last 1/3 of the pregnancy and will increase considerably after the calf is dropped. You should increase the quality of the feed when these times arrive.

Bulls

Bulls tend to be last on the mind when it comes to winter feeding. If you have a mature bull with a good body condition score, then his nutritional needs are not high. Feed these good bulls such that you keep their body condition score but do not try to fatten him up, as this is a waste of time and money.

Young Bulls

As with young heifers, the young bull must be fed well as he is still growing. Typically, a high quality forage along with some concentrate can be fed to these animals. If it is possible, separate the young bulls from the mature bulls to decrease potential feed loss and aggression.

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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).



Congratulations to Ms. Carla Williams, the winner of our Newsletter Survey Drawing. Ms. Williams won a gift basket full of Extension goodies. Congratulations, Ms. Williams, and thank you for supporting the Baker County Extension Service.



**MASTER
GARDENER**
UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
IFAS Extension

Being a Master Gardener Volunteer is more than just volunteering your time, it's about making a difference in your community!

There are many jobs available to volunteers and training is provided for all of them. Download your application from our website or stop by our office to pick one up.

Applications are due by January 25th.



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