



The Baker Bulletin

A
Baker County
Extension
Service Monthly
Newsletter

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Dear Extension Friends,

Welcome to 2017! We at the Baker County Extension Service look forward to serving the citizens of Baker County this year. If you have questions about your garden, lawn, pasture, pond, or are interested in youth programming offered through 4-H, please come by the office or give us a call so that we can help. Thank you for a wonderful 2016 and we look forward to serving you this year. 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



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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Highlights in Horticulture

By:
Alicia Lamborn,
Horticulture Agent

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Rosemary

If you received a Rosemary Christmas Tree as a gift this holiday season, then you are in luck. Because with just a little care and attention, it is sure to be a gift that keeps on giving.

Rosemary is a fragrant herb that can enhance both your cooking and your landscape. The plant is very easy to grow and can even be grown in a pot outside your kitchen for easy access when preparing meals.

The narrow, needle-like leaves emit a sharp, somewhat pine-like aroma when crushed. You can use them fresh in meals or dry them for later use. Rosemary is often used to season meats like pork, chicken, and lamb, but it's equally delicious when used on roasted potatoes or in soups and rustic breads.

When grown in the ground, this drought tolerant plant grows as a woody perennial or small shrub reaching 4-6 feet tall and wide. If pruned or grown in containers, rosemary will remain smaller in size. Groundcover forms are also available. Depending on the cultivar, small pink, lavender or blue flowers may appear in winter or spring.

Rosemary demands a well-drained soil and at least six hours of sun. The plant is originally from the Mediterranean, so it prefers dry conditions and suffers when watered too frequently. If you would like to own a rosemary plant, it's best to purchase one from a garden center since they are difficult to start from seed or cuttings.



Photo and excerpts from: <http://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/plants/edibles/vegetables/rosemary.html>

Take a Hike (in a Botanical Garden)

Florida has some truly great botanical gardens throughout the state. So get out there, enjoy nature, and get some garden inspiration for the new year!

Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park is located in Tallahassee. This Southern garden is beautiful all year round, but is best known for its early spring blooms of camellias, azaleas, and Japanese magnolia. This is surely a state park not to be missed. <https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Maclay-Gardens>

Kanapaha Botanical Gardens in Gainesville features a natural-style garden and is famous for its extensive bamboo collection, well-labeled herb garden, and children's garden. kanapaha.org

Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens inspires visitors with formal gardens on the banks of the St. Johns River. The gardens feature beautiful old live oaks and views of the Jacksonville skyline. www.cummuseum.org

Florida Botanical Gardens has multiple garden "rooms," making it a wonderful educational experience for visitors to learn more about Florida plants. Located in Largo, admission to this garden is free and of course, be sure to check the calendar for ongoing programs and special events. <http://www.flbg.org/>

McKee Botanical Garden is a Vero Beach treasure offering visitors an opportunity to meander down winding garden paths through a display of many tropical plants. www.mckee garden.org

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens has relaxing views of Sarasota Bay, coupled with a variety of orchids, bromeliads, and epiphytes, making this garden an engaging place to visit. As an added bonus, the bookstore is well-stocked and a must-visit for garden and book enthusiasts alike. <http://selby.org/>



A formal garden at the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

continued on page 3...

UF/IFAS Extension Baker County

2016 Horticulture & Master Gardener Program



58 Educational Materials Developed



155,930 Website Visits



49,599 Social Media Reach



Economic Value of Volunteer Hours exceeded \$22,000

1,555 Clientele Contacts



334

Group Learning Participants



551

Office Consultations



280

Field Consultations



312

Telephone Consultations



78

Email Consultations

Horticulture Agent Achievements

\$840 in grant funding obtained to enhance county programs

State Awards (2): Search for Program Excellence Team Award and Excellence in Communication and Expressive Arts Team Award

National Award: Search for Program Excellence in Consumer or Commercial Horticulture



Master Gardener Volunteer Recognitions & Milestones

10 Year Service Award & 1000 Lifetime Hours Pin - Cindy Jenkins
5 Year Service Award & 250 Lifetime Hours Pin - Jeanette Brown
5 Year Service Award & 250 Lifetime Hours Pin - Mac McDaniel
5 Year Service Award - Billie Reeves
250 Lifetime Hours Pin - Kyle Brown



Master Gardener Volunteer Cindy Jenkins (center) was presented with a 10-year Service Award by Baker County Horticulture Agent Alicia Lamborn (left) and State Master Gardener Coordinator Wendy Wilber (right) at the Regional Master Gardener Conference held in September of 2016.

In addition to completing 10 years of volunteer service to the Baker County Extension Office, Cindy also reached an impressive milestone by contributing over 1,000 volunteer hours while serving her community!

Congratulations Cindy!

Take a Hike continued from page 2...

Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, west of Delray Beach in Palm Beach County, transports visitors to a meditative experience with a tranquil stroll around the lake, surrounded by Japanese gardens. Check out the beautiful bonsais and look into attending one of the cultural demos; they offer live demonstrations on select Saturdays. morikami.org

Naples Botanical Garden is one of Florida's newer gardens. Be sure to visit the Brazilian garden, the Caribbean garden, and the wonderful orchid collection. Don't forget to check out the visitor center which is LEED Gold Certified—the second-highest level for this global green-building certification. naplesgarden.org

Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden located in Coral Gables is perhaps the finest tropical botanical garden in the state. The rare plant house, new butterfly house, and one of the world's largest palm collections make this a must-see garden. Check the calendar before you go because this garden has many wonderful events. <http://www.fairchildgarden.org/>

Source: <http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/>

January 2017

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				

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.



4-H



Horticulture



Agriculture

Upcoming Programs & Events

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

Jan 5 **Fruit Orchard Planting Event**, 9:00 am — 12:00 pm, Baker County Extension Office, Arboretum. Lend a hand and learn a little about planting and basic care of fruit trees while helping plant the new fruit orchard. RSVP by calling (904) 259-3520.

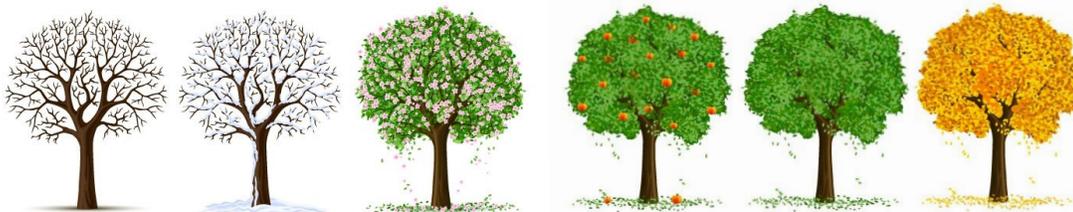
Jan 20 **Fruit Orchard Workshop: Planting & 1st Year Maintenance**, 2:00 pm — 4:00 pm, Baker County Extension Office, Classroom and Arboretum. This workshop will cover general fruit tree selection, site selection, proper planting techniques, and 1st year basic care and pruning/training techniques of select fruit trees located in the new fruit orchard. Perfect for anyone planting fruits this season or thinking of planting fruits in the near future — this workshop will begin in the classroom followed by outdoor demonstrations. \$5 per person includes all materials; pre-registration and payment is due by Wednesday, January 18th. Stop by the office to register; for more information please call (904) 259-3520.

Jan 27 **Strawberry Plant Sale**, 9:00 am — 2:00 pm, Baker County Extension Office. Master Gardener Volunteers will host a tent sale featuring potted strawberry plants with blooms and fruit, ready for your enjoyment. Choose from hanging baskets, 1-gallon and 3-gallon containers, and 5-gallon vertical garden strawberry buckets, all reasonably priced. Questions: please call (904) 259-3520.



Jan 30 **Growing Leafy Greens on Small Acreage for Local Markets**, 4:30 pm—7:00 pm, Lawtey. For more information or to register, call (352) 955-2402 or visit <http://tinyurl.com/govqnr>

Feb 10 **Small Scale Mushroom Production**, 8:30 am — 4:00 pm, Live Oak. Topics include mushroom identification, shiitake log production, oyster in bag production, and handling, processing, and marketing your product. More information and registration at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/small-scale-mushroom-production-registration-28235044779>



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. NO DECEMBER MEETING.

NEW SPIN CLUB—Dog Club—Begins January 10, 2017. Contact Ms. Shaina for details.



4-H BBQ Tailgate Contest
Saturday, January 21st
Baker County Fairgrounds
Setup @ 9:30am

Register by January 13th
Go to <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu>
For flyer and registration information



Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:

*Shaina Spann,
4-H Agent*

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Upcoming Events

January

05– Orchard Work Day, Extension office, 9am-12pm

10-12–Mrs. Shaina out of office for Youth Development Institute

13-14–Livestock Evaluation/Meats Judging Clinic, Gainesville, ages 11+

13–Deadline to register for Hog & Ham

13–Deadline to register for County BBQ Tailgate Contest

16– Hog & Ham Workshop, Gainesville, UF Animal Sciences, room 156

21– County BBQ Tailgate Contest, Baker County Fairgrounds, setup @ 9:30am

February

09-20– Florida State Fair, Tampa, FL

11– 4-H Showcase at the State Fair, Tampa, FL

25– County Events, County Administration Bldg. 55 N 3rd St. Macclenny

March

03– Deadline to Register for 3rd Executive Board

10-12– 3rd Executive Board, Camp Timpoochee, Niceville, for 4-H youth 13+

New for 2017!

Mrs. Shaina's Open Door Hours:

Monday: 2:00-4:00pm

Wednesday: 9:30-11:30am

Thursday: 2:00-4:00pm

These are the times that you can come and meet with her or call her at the office! All other times an appointment must be made. If you are unable to make your appointment on time, you must reschedule your meeting. You can always catch her by email!

Call to set up appointment: 259-3520
E-mail: slbennett@ufl.edu



What is County Events?

Every year at County Events 4-H members participate and compete with one another. County Events fosters belonging, mastery, and independence in 4-H members. It is an essential part of the 4-H experience. Youth have the opportunity to demonstrate their talents and feel confident about their expertise in different subject areas.

The Purpose of County and District Events

County and district level presentations provide a valuable teaching and learning situation. They give Junior, Intermediate, and Senior participants an opportunity to:

- Practice making oral and visual presentations.
- Learn presentation techniques from observing others.
- Receive constructive suggestions for improvement.
- Receive recognition for efforts.

The County 4-H program receives additional recognition and visibility through these activities. All 4-H events should foster a strong educational 4-H program by providing physical, mental, social, and emotional growth experiences for individual 4-H members. Events should give 4-H members positive, meaningful experiences in leadership and citizenship development.

Competitive events are a planned part of the 4-H curriculum, designed to allow youth to:

- Gain experience and develop skills in gathering, preparing, and presenting educational information.
- Enhance decision making capabilities.
- Make public presentations.
- Learn standards by which comparisons are drawn.
- Develop good sportsmanship.

Competitive events are just one of the many teaching methods used by 4-H Leaders and Extension Agents.

County Events—February 25, 2017

**Baker County Commission Administration
Office, 55 N 3rd St, Macclenny, FL 32063**

**Check-in/Set-up at 9:30am;
Competition begins at 10:00am**

**Registration at florida.4honline.com
by February 22**

Getting Ready for Springtime: Grazing Management

With spring green up potentially just around the corner, now is the time for cattle managers to come up with their grazing plan for the coming growing season. Grazing management can be thought of as the manipulation of livestock grazing to achieve a desired result, namely the continued health of your animals and the continued health of your pastures. Typical decisions that are involved when deciding on a grazing management plan include: 1) the type of forage that is to be grazed, 2) the type of animal(s) that will be placed into the grazing area, 3) the nutritive requirements of the grazing animals, 4) input costs associated with the plan (including fencing, gates, fertilization, and weed control), and 5) the potential return on investment. The information below can help you with making some of these decisions for your property and your animals.



WHAT FORAGES TO GRAZE? Deciding what forages to graze depends on: 1) previous establishment of the pasture, 2) the soil requirements of the forage, and 3) the amount of nutrition that it will provide to the animal(s). Make sure to choose what is best for your area. The most common warm grasses in North Florida are bahia and bermuda.

HOW CLOSE TO GRAZE? When deciding how close to graze forage, managers will typically look at one of two things: 1) pasture height or 2) stocking rate. Which one of these factors that you will use will depend on your setup. Either of these scenarios can work, but you should always remember that during cool or dry weather pastures tend to be overgrazed and that during warm or wet weather, pastures tend to be undergrazed. It is also important to remember that the type of forage that you are using may determine the pasture grazing height. Tall grasses that elevate their leaves can be grazed to a taller height than low growing grasses. It is also important to remember that stems are less nutritious than leaves, so keep this in mind if you are using pasture height to determine when to move your animals to another grazing area.

HOW OFTEN TO GRAZE? When considering how often to graze, there are two options available to the cattle manager: 1) continuous grazing (stocking) or 2) rotational grazing (stocking). Continuous grazing is the unrestricted, continuous access to the pasture area by the livestock. In these cases, the livestock decide how close to graze. Continuous grazing also does not allow for a rest time for the forage area. This can be very detrimental to the pasture if a high stocking rate is used. However, this type of grazing has lower input costs and results in fewer management decisions. Rotational grazing uses two or more areas, or paddocks, that are grazed in sequence. This allows for new growth during the rest period. Using rotational grazing is more management intensive, but can allow for increased longevity of a forage area and potential increased stocking rates. Rotational grazing does have a higher input costs when compared to continuous grazing because of the need for fencing and gates.

SUMMARY - Grazing management is an important tool to use to get the best efficiencies out of your forage area. It is important to keep both the plant and the animal nutritive requirements in mind when deciding on a grazing management system to use. It is also important to keep in mind the costs of inputs such as fencing and the time that you will need to set aside for management of the herd. A good grazing management plan is one tool that can help you get the most out of your pasture and your herd. For additional information, please visit <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu> or contact your local County Extension Agent.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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).

SECOND REQUEST

If you would like to remain on the **Baker Bulletin** mailing list in 2017, please complete the form below and mail it or bring it to our office. **You may also renew by visiting our website at <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu>.**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

PHONE: _____ **RACE** _____ **GENDER** _____

Please choose either Mail or Email below:

_____ **MAIL**

_____ **EMAIL Please provide email address:** _____

Please return this form to our office or mail it to: Baker County Extension Service
1025 W. Macclenny Ave.
Macclenny, FL 32063