Dear Extension Friends,

We need your help. We hope that you enjoy reading our newsletter and invite you to take a brief survey. The information gathered helps us to improve our newsletter, demonstrate our value to the local community and secure funding for the Extension Office. Please respond promptly so we can see if this newsletter is meeting its goals. Thank you so much for being a supporter of Baker County Extension programs!

Sincerely,

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

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Take Our Survey & Enter to Win A Pollinator Themed Gift Basket!
https://forms.gle/v1xNPDuWcdjegQrg6

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Upcoming Classes & Events

Oct 1 4-H Open House @ National Night Out, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., City of Macclenny Park (Duck Pond). Stop by the 4-H table to learn about club opportunities.

Oct 12 Farm to Family Beef Basics, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Baker County Extension Office. Limited spaces available. Bring the kids to this family friendly program and learn about the beef industry, cutting basics and safety, grilling techniques, plus more! Learn from Meat Science Expert, Dr. Chad Carr from UF and enjoy some delicious taste testing! (Lunch Provided) $20 per pair. Register here: https://farmtofamilybeef.eventbrite.com
October Gardening Tips

Flowers
- Plant cool season annuals like dianthus, calendula, petunia and snapdragon.
- Bulbs and bulb-like plants for fall planting include Amaryllis, Calla, Iris, Lily, Narcissus and Watsonia. We will also be adding Snowflakes and Star-of-Bethlehem to the arboretum’s bulb garden this fall.

Trees & Shrubs
- Spring is the most popular time for installing new ornamentals in the landscape but planting in the cooler weather during fall will make it easier to get roots established.
- Minimize pruning on spring flowering shrubs and trees by removing only broken, damaged, or rubbing branches. Heavy pruning or shearing this late in the year will reduce the number of blooms next spring.

Lawns
- If you did not fertilize in September, then you’ll want to wait until spring rather than applying it this late in the year. Encouraging the grass to grow at a time when it should be preparing to go dormant can result in winter kill.
- Continue hand pulling perennial weeds that are producing seed. Chemicals are generally less effective at this later stage of development.
- If winter weeds were a problem last year, treat problematic areas with a pre-emergent herbicide beginning in early October with air temperatures reach 65-70°F for 4-5 consecutive days. The cooler weather will trigger weed seed germination for troublesome weeds like annual bluegrass, bur- weed, and chickweed.

Vegetables & Herbs
- Add cool season crops to the garden. Using transplants from a local garden center will get the garden off to a fast start, but seeds offer more varieties to choose from. See page 3 for more information.

Fruits & Nuts
- Plant strawberries this month for a spring harvest. Recommended varieties for north Florida include Camarosa, Festival, Camino Real, Sweet Charlie, Chandler. If planting bare root, plant deep enough so that no roots are exposed but the crown is not covered. Begin harvesting fruit as early as January by protecting flowers and fruit during freezing weather.
- Blueberry plants may need a boost of fertilizer this month. Apply a 12-4-8 fertilizer with 2% magnesium based on the age of the bushes (see page 3).

Fertilizing the Vegetable Garden
Are you getting ready to plant the vegetable garden and wondering how much fertilizer to put out?

Use this guide:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fertilizer Grade</th>
<th>Amount to broadcast per 100 sq. ft.</th>
<th>Amount to band per 10 feet/row</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-6-6</td>
<td>3 lbs (6 cups)</td>
<td>5 oz (&lt; ¾ cup)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-10-10</td>
<td>2 lbs (4 cups)</td>
<td>4 oz (½ cup)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-0-10</td>
<td>2 lbs (4 cups)</td>
<td>4 oz (½ cup)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Broadcast fertilizer over entire garden before planting.
- Band fertilizer along plant rows at planting: 2-3” to the side & 1-2” below seed level or plant row.
- During the growing season, you may need to apply fertilizer 2-3 more times at half the banded rate shown in the table. Apply the fertilizer just beyond the outside leaves (edge of plant canopy).
- Slow release nitrogen fertilizer will reduce the number of fertilizer applications needed.
- A 10-0-10 fertilizer is a good choice because phosphorus is usually plentiful in Florida soils & therefore not generally needed.
- Soil test kits are available from the Extension Office. Testing the pH and available nutrients is recommended every 1-3 years so gardeners can replace only the missing nutrients and prevent over-liming.
- In addition to fertilizers, adding 25 to 100 pounds of compost or composted animal manure per 100 square feet is recommended, especially for sandy, infertile soils.
Plastic Flower Pot Donations Needed!

If you have old, plastic nursery pots laying around, please consider donating them to the Master Gardener Program for recycling. We can accept all sizes, but particularly need gallon and quart sized pots. Feel free to deliver them to the front Extension Office. For large quantities, please place them at the back fence gate near the greenhouse.

To everyone that has already made a donation—we thank you!!!
How to Write A Thank You Letter

For youth who sell animals to a buyer at the fair, here is a helpful guide for how to write a thank you letter. Remember -- this person or business did NOT have to do this for you. If they purchased your auction animal, OR, if they donated toward your animal, you are grateful. (Put yourself in their place: If you were the one who donated your hard-earned money, you would want someone to thank you!) So, send them a letter or thank you card in your best handwriting and include the following in it.

The person or business receiving the letter must know:
1) who you are
2) what you did to get their donation
3) just how grateful you are!

Thank You Letter Guide:
1) Give your full name, and your age or grade, and that you are a 4-H member who is in the ______ project, for ___ years, and a member of the ______ club. If you are acquainted with this donor, remind them how they might know of you.
2) Tell or remind them that they were the successful bidder for your animal (what kind, its weight, etc.), OR, that you won an award (name the award and the category that the award was for) that they donated to, and how you won that honor.
3) Most adults LIKE to read letters from young people. Tell them what you plan to do with this money or award. Tell them about your 4-H plans for next year and a little something about yourself. And tell them how thankful you are to have received this "wonderful" thing that they did for you.
4) It is also good to mention something like: "I am glad that donors like you contribute to the 4-H program and help provide an incentive to all 4-H members to make the best better." OR, "I am happy to have a buyer like you who helps make the 4-H youth auction program possible. OR, better yet, use your own words to tell this person or business that you are grateful that people like them do contribute to a very important and worthwhile youth education program.
5) At the bottom of your letter, write: "Sincerely," and sign your name.

Unsealed, Addressed, & Self Addressed thank you letters are due to the Extension Office by:
• November 22, 2019, OR exhibitor will forfeit $50 of check amount
• January 7, 2020, OR exhibitor will forfeit $100 of check amount
• January 31, 2020, OR exhibitor will forfeit $200 of check amount

Canned yams
Stuffing
Gravy
Green Beans
Cream of Mushroom Soup
Fried Onions
Macaroni and Cheese
Corn Bread Mix
Canned Pie Filling
Graham Cracker Crust

In honor of Farm City Week, the Baker County Extension Office and Baker County Farm Bureau are collecting non-perishable food items for families in need.

Drop-Off Locations:
Baker County Extension Office- 1025 W Macclenny Ave.
Baker County Farm Bureau- 539 S 6th St.
Please drop off items by November 18, 2019

Livestock Club August Report
The last meeting we had was at Heritage Park. We talked about fair requirements. We also talked about all members renewing their membership before the fair starts. Next, we handed out all fair project paperwork, tattooed bunnies and lastly, we signed paperwork.
—Submitted by: Madelyn Robinson, Livestock Club Reporter

4-H Club Meetings & Events
• Cloverleaf Cloggers—Every Thursday, from 6-8pm at the Sanderson Community Center.
• County Council- Will resume in February.
• Livestock Club— October 22, 6 pm, Sanderson Community Center. Thank you letters & community service meeting.
Barnyard Bulletin

Fall Favorites

Pumpkins

The United States grows pumpkins on almost 66,000 acres, producing 1.5 billion pounds of usable pumpkins. On average, a pumpkin grower can get 24,000 lbs. of pumpkin per acre.

Did you know pumpkins range in size from less than 1 pound to over 1,000 pounds!? Pumpkins are nutrient dense. Just one cup of cooked pumpkin provides more than 200% of the recommended daily intake of Vitamin A, 20% of vitamin C and more potassium than a banana.

Pumpkins are a lucrative crop, earning producers an average of $2,000 per acre!

Corn

Corn is staple fall crop. Whether it be used for a corn maze, fall decorations, or in holiday meals, corn is prevalent during the fall.

Did you know Florida grows 22% of the sweet corn in the United States? Sweet corn has a value of over $158 million for Florida producers! Field corn, used for grain products, has a value of $24.7 million for the state.

Corn grown in Florida is generally reserved for the fresh market, but some is sent for processing, canning, etc.

Farm to Family: Beef Basics

Oct. 12th | 11am-1pm | Ag Center
$20 a pair | Limited Spaces

Bring the kids to this family friendly program and learn about the beef industry, cutting basics and safety, grilling techniques, plus more! Enjoy a delicious meal, crafted by you during the course!

Get tickets here: https://farmtofamilybeef.eventbrite.com
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County

STRAWBERRY PLANT FUNDRAISER

'Camino Real' Strawberries

- A favorite for N. Florida gardens!
- Plants are small and compact
- Fruiting begins in late winter
- Good per-plant yields
- Large fruit with very good flavor

10 plants - $5

50 plants - $20

PRE-ORDER TODAY

PAY AT PICK UP

Planting & growing instructions included.

259-3520

CALL TO PLACE YOUR ORDER