



The Baker Bulletin

A
Baker County
Extension
Service Monthly
Newsletter

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Dear Extension Friends,

It is time for the start of another school year and that means that it is also time for the start of another 4-H Year. This year's 4-H Kickoff Event will be on September 17 at the Baker County Extension Office. We would like to wish everyone a happy and safe new academic year. Please make sure to watch for children heading to and from school in the mornings and afternoons. It is also the height of hurricane season here in Florida. It's been quiet this year, but you should always be prepared for an emergency. 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 UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
IFAS Extension
Baker County Extension

Contact Information—Baker County Extension Service

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Highlights in Horticulture

By:
Alicia Lamborn,
Horticulture Agent

Plant of the Month: Kale

Kale is a cool season cooking green which can be planted in North Florida from September to February. Plants that are seeded 12 to 18 inches apart should be ready for harvest 2-3 months later. Leaves can be stripped off as needed to allow for continued growth and harvesting all winter long.

Kale plants are easy to grow and don't require any special attention. If sand sticking to the curly leaves after harvest has deterred you from growing this plant again, try a variety with flatter leaves. With so many varieties, colors, textures and flavors there is surely a kale to suit any taste. Some that are proven performers in Florida include Vates Dwarf Blue Curled, Tuscan, Winterbor, and Redbor.

Vates Dwarf Blue Curled: a commonly grown variety with heavily crinkled, bluish-green leaves.



Tuscan: dark green, non-curved leaves are heavily blistered (savoyed); rich, tender leaves have a softer texture than curly green kales. Tolerant of hot and cold weather.

Winterbor: a standard dark green, curled kale; leaves are well-curved and ruffled.



Redbor: similar to Winterbor but frilly leaves are a deep purple-red color; flavor, color, and curling are enhanced by cold weather.



And in case you are wondering, the 'Flowering Kale' grown as an ornamental during winter is both attractive and edible, although not very palatable. I'm told it can be rather bitter tasting.

Photos borrowed from Johnny's Selected Seeds at www.johnnyseeds.com

Daffodil Bulb Fundraiser

The Baker County Master Gardeners are once again selling daffodil bulbs to raise money for educational activities and youth gardening programs. These varieties are recommended by the Florida Daffodil Society and should be planted in fall for blooms January—March.

Autumn Colors — Autumn Colors is a group of daffodils; colors range from white to dark yellow; cups are white, yellow or orange-red, and often frilled; 8-15 flowers per stem, sometimes up 25-30; fragrant; height and bloom time varies. **We are receiving a mix—order several bulbs for a delightful surprise!**

Avalanche — Called 'Seventeen Sisters' in the past due to the 15-20 flowers per stem. White petals with light yellow cup; sweetly fragrant; forces easily; 16"-18" **Mid March**



Ceylon — Strong yellow flower—has orange cup with a red rim. Good in partial shade. Tall, strong bloomer. Flower color does not fade. 14-16" **Mid-February**

Golden Dawn — Bright yellow petals with golden orange cup. Very fragrant. Full sun to partial shade. Good performer for hot climates. 14-16" **February-March**



Itzum — Medium-size yellow flower with swept back and a yellow trumpet that slowly turns bright orange. Takes full sun or afternoon shade. Up to 12" tall. **Early March**

Monal — Strong overlapping petals with large, deep orange straight cup. Needs good drainage. Tolerates afternoon shade. 16-18" **March**



\$1 per bulb

Bulk pre-orders accepted.

Color photos and descriptions available on our website:
baker.ifas.ufl.edu

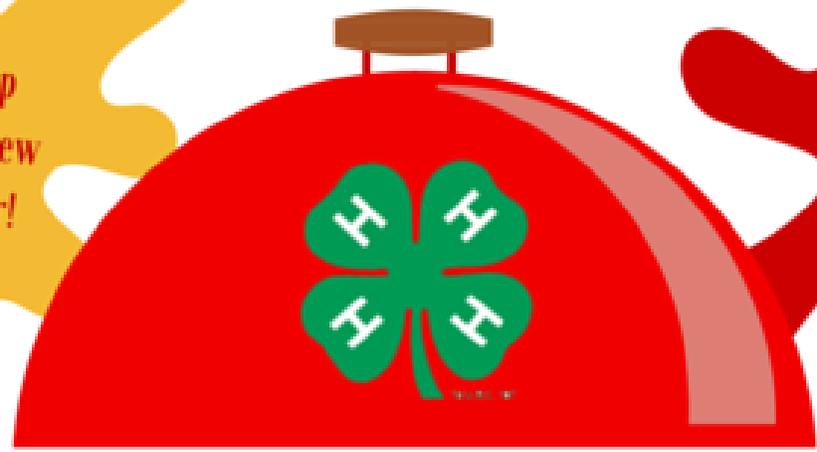
Pre-order your bulbs by calling (904) 259-3520



Sign up
for the new
4-H year!



Bring
a
friend!



4-H Kick-Off



THURSDAY

17

SEPTEMBER

6:00 PM

BAKER COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
ARBORETUM

1025 W. MACCLENNY AVE. 32063



STOP BY AND SEE WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER!

HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS, AND CHIPS

MEET THE CLUBS AND PLAY SOME GAMES!



September 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 	2	3	4	5
6	7 Extension Office Closed, Labor Day Holiday	8 	9	10 	11	12
13	14	15 	16	17 	18	19
20	21	22 	23	24 	25	26
27	28	29 	30		OCT 2 	

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.

Sept. 10 **Backyard Poultry Seminar, 6:00 pm to 8:30pm, Duval County Extension Office, 1010 N. McDuff Ave., Jacksonville, FL.** Do you have an interest in raising backyard poultry? If so, please plan to attend the Backyard Poultry Seminar on September 10. Jacksonville residents who live in residential areas who wish to keep poultry must attend a class to receive their permit from the City of Jacksonville. Topics will include: 1) Chick Management & Care, 2) General Management & Husbandry of the Flock, and 3) Nutrition & Feeding. There will also be a presentation on COJ Permit Requirements and Procedures. Pre-registration is required. The registration fee is \$5.00 per person. For additional information or to register for the program, please call 904-255-7450.

Sept. 17 **Mind Your Business, Hydroponics for Profit, 8:30am to 3:00pm, Suwannee Valley Agricultural Extension Center, 8202 CR 417, Live Oak, FL.** Topics include: 1) creating budgets for your hydroponic operation, 2) evaluating the profitability of alternative systems, 3) assessing your farm's food safety policies, and 4) marketing ideas to increase your operation's bottom line. Lunch and refreshments provided. The cost is \$75 for the primary participant and \$50 for one additional participant. Registration deadline is Friday, September 17. To register visit <http://2015mindyourbusiness.eventbrite.com> or visit http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar/2015_0917_MindYourBusiness.pdf

October 2 **Dripline Irrigation and the Landscape, 10:00 am or 3:00 pm, Baker County Extension Office, 1025 W. Macclenny Ave, Macclenny, FL.** Drip irrigation is a great way to cut costs on water. It is also more effective at providing water directly to the root zone of plants. This 90-minute workshop discusses the importance of protecting Florida's water resources and will show you how to install a system at home. The workshop is free, but seating is limited; RSVP and choose your session by calling (904) 259-3520. Course taught by Taylor Clem, a Ph.D. candidate in University of Florida's Department of Environmental Horticulture. For more information, call the Baker County Extension Office or contact Taylor Clem at taylorclem87@ufl.edu.



4-H Club Meetings & Events:

All County 4-H Club — 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month, 6pm in the 4-H classroom

Livestock Club —
Check with Club Leaders.

Cloverleaf Cloggers — New Day! Starting September 3rd—Every Thursday at 7:30pm at Fabulous Footworks

Important Dates: Sept. 2015

12— 4-H Day at Gator Football (pre-register online), Gainesville, \$18

17— 4-H Kick-Off, 6pm, Arboretum

18-20— LAW, Camp Anderson, \$110



Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:

Shaina Spann,
4-H Agent

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Fun Things to Do in 4-H!



Did you know there are more things to do in 4-H than just your club meeting? There are local activities like the Holiday Bake-Off and the STEM Fair, as well as state activities like 4-H Legislature and 4-H Day at the Capitol. Here are some options to do more for your 4-H experience:

- **Hog and Ham**— a project for youth 12+ where you can raise a hog and harvest it yourself. *Jan-Aug*
- **State Executive Board**— a committee for youth 14+ that are hand selected to help develop and plan state events for Florida 4-H. *September through August*
- **I.C.E. (Introducing Cool Experiences)**- a weekend retreat for youth ages 11-13 to learn leadership skills, meet 4-H youth from around the state, and have fun! *May*
- **4-H Bug Collection Contest**— a contest where youth ages 8+ can make a bug collection, send it to the University of Florida and possibly win a state award! (Mrs. Shaina can help with this!) *July*
- **4-H STEM Fair**— a science fair for ALL 4-H youth. *County fair in January, District fair in Feb-March*
- **County Events**— Share what you've done at County Events! You can demonstrate how to do something, give a speech, or showcase your fashion sense and talent! You can move to District Events if you get first place! Members that are 14+ compete from around the state at 4-H University! *County— March, District— May, 4-H U— July*
- **Judging Teams**— Did you know that 4-H has judging teams?! Just like FFA, 4-H has several judging teams that you can be on. Some teams are: meats, horticulture ID, poultry, consumer choices, forest ecology, and many more!

If you would like to participate in any of these or learn about more things that 4-H offers, please let Mrs. Shaina know!



Us! www.facebook.com/bakerco4h

If you read this newsletter, please let us know! Look up what the last 'H' to be added to 4-H was! When you find out, call or email Mrs. Shaina and let her know for a prize!!!!

September

01— Southern Region Teen Leadership Conference (SRTLTC) **Reg. CLOSES**

\$275

07— Labor Day, Office Closed

11— Leadership Adventure Weekend (LAW) Registration **CLOSES \$110**

12— District Retreat, Bradford. Co. Starke, 10am-2pm. 14+; \$20

12— 4-H Day at Gator Football (pre-register online, Gainesville, \$18

17— 4-H Kick-Off, 6pm, Arboretum

18-20— LAW, Camp Anderson, \$110

24-27— SRTLTC, Crossville, TN \$275

25— Day at LegoLand **Reg. CLOSES \$30**

26— Day at LegoLand, Orlando

29— 2pm-7pm Home Arts Entries due

October

01— Food Entries Due 7:30-8:15am

02— Baker County Fair Begins

Poultry, Rabbits, Goats due: 3-5pm

04— Market Swine/Steer weigh-in 2-6pm

05-Poultry Showmanship 6pm

Rabbit Show 7pm

06-Sheep Show— 6pm; then Goat, then Steer

07-Swine Show 7pm

08— Buyers Dinner, 5pm Market Sale 6:30pm

16-18- 1st Exec. Board, Camp Cherry Lake

17— Tractor Supply Paper Clover Fundraising

Event, **contact Mrs. Shaina to help!**

Birthdays for September:

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

06— Ben Bridges

12— Jayden Sweat

12— Peyton Griffis

19— Stephanie Rawlins

21— Seth North

23— Rosa Wilkinson

24— Clairra Sluski



Happy Birthday

**Baker
County**

Many Factors Affect Cattle Selling Price

Although the Southeast contains over 50% of the beef cattle operations in the U.S., the majority of those operations (82.6%) have fewer than 50 beef cows. There are many methods that can be used to add value to a cattle crop, but not all producers take advantage of these. Below are a few tips to increase the value of your cattle at sale:



1. **Timing is everything:** Typically, the highest prices are received in June and July with the lower prices in May, September and October.
2. **Take as many to the sale as you can:** Single calves usually bring lower than median pricing and groups that have over 6 calves have a higher than median price.
3. **Castrate:** While the producer cannot predetermine the sex of a calf, on average, bulls and heifers bring lower prices than steers.
4. **Average weight is where it's at:** Outward appearance has a large effect on sale price. Gaunt or shrunk calves tend to get a higher price per cwt., while fully conditioned calves garner a lower price per cwt.
5. **Buyers place value on what they see:** Polled cattle are the industry norm and there is usually a negative price influence if the cattle have horns. There are also negative price differentials for cattle that do not have a muscle score of 1 or if the frame score is not large or medium.
6. **Price for breeds vary:** Many cross breeds can be beneficial to the seller; however, this is greatly dependent on your market location.
7. **Health status is important:** The visual health status of the calf being sold is just as important as vaccination records. Any general perception by the buyer that the calf is unhealthy for any reason (stale, bad eyes, dead hair) typically results in a severe discount. On the other hand, those calves that were identified as receiving verified vaccinations usually garnered an increase in price.

Using some (or all) of these tips should help cattle producers receive the best price for their cattle at sale time.

Information in this article was adapted from EDIS Publication AN278, *Factors that Affect Calf Selling Price at Marketing*, by Hersom, M. and Thrift, T. ©2012. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/an278>.

UF | IFAS Beef Management Calendar—September

- Heavily graze pastures to be interplanted to cool season pastures.
- Check mineral feeder.
- Check dust bags.
- Wean calves and cull cow herd.
- Deworm the herd if internal parasites are a problem.
- Make sure any replacement purchases are healthy and have been calftag vaccinated for brucellosis.
- Determine bull replacement needs, develop selection criteria and start checking availability of quality animals.
- Review winter feed supply and feeding plans so that needed adjustments can be made before supplies tighten and prices rise.

<http://www.animal.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/beef/documents/BeefCal.pdf>

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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).

SHOW YOUR TALENTS AT THE BAKER COUNTY FAIR

There are plenty of opportunities to show your talents in the Horticulture Showcase, Home Arts Exhibit, and even the Table Setting Competition. Plus, all exhibitors will receive a free entry pass into the fair. The Baker County Fair will begin on Friday, October 2nd and will run through Saturday, October 10th.

Horticulture Showcase:

- Open to gardeners of all ages, both amateur and experienced; adults and youth judged separately; all qualified entries will receive a ribbon and cash prize.
- To qualify for judging: All plants must be free from insects/disease and have been grown by you and in your possession for at least 3 months prior to fair.
- You may enter up to 25 plants, but not more than one of the same cultivar or variety of plant. Sections include: hanging baskets, flowering/fruited plants, foliage plants, bonsai, cacti/succulents, special displays (mixed container gardens, topiary, etc.) and patio plants.

Home Arts Exhibit:

- New entry categories include: Duct Tape Design contest, Gift Basket competition, Recycled items, Scrapbook Pages and Binders, and Photography Show.
- Craft entries include sculptures, paintings, drawings, needlework, quilts, garments, jewelry, wood carvings, ceramics, flower arrangements and more.
- Baked products (including breads, pies, cookies, and candies) and canned products (such as vegetables, fruits, relishes, jellies, and sauces) also make nice entries. Please note that **U.S.D.A. guidelines must be followed as to proper canning and food preservation methods.**

Table Setting Contest: Held at 6:30pm on Thursday, October 1st and is open to third grade youth through adults.

The purpose of the contest is to encourage the art of table setting, to learn proper placement of dinnerware, flatware, etc. and to be creative in coordinating the menu and table setting. The table will be set with two place settings (one for you and a guest) and should have a theme. Call Nancy Masterson to register at 653-1601



IMPORTANT DATES AND TIMES

HORTICULTURE ENTRIES ACCEPTED: Tuesday, Sept. 29th from 12pm-7pm & Wednesday, Sept. 30th from 9am—3pm

Plant Pick-up: Sunday, October 11th from 1pm—5pm **Horticulture Questions?** Call Cindy Jenkins, Horticulture Chairperson @ 259-9517

HOME ARTS ENTRIES ACCEPTED: Tuesday, Sept. 29th and Wednesday, Sept. 30th from 2pm -7pm. **Baked goods and candies:** Accepted only on Wednesday, Sept. 30th from 2pm-7pm and Thursday, Oct. 1st from 7:30am-8:15am **Home Arts Questions?** Call Nancy Masterson at 653- 1601.

Fair Rules available from the Baker County Extension Office and at www.bakercountyfair.com