Dear Extension Friends,

We hope you’ll come out to see us and interact with our agriculture sensory station at the County Fair, September 13-21. And don’t forget to join us on September 6th for our Vegetable Gardening Class which comes with many cool season veggie seeds to get your fall garden started. Strawberry plants will also arrive next month. See page 6 for details and call to reserve your plants today before they run out!

Sincerely,

Alicia Lamborn
County Director / Horticulture Agent
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County
September Gardening Tips

Flowers
- Divide clumping perennial plants like daylily and amaryllis if they have become overcrowded. This will improve flowering and plant quality.
- Annual flowers that thrive in the heat can only be expected to grow until first frost. Consider waiting until October when cool season annuals can be planted for a fresh splash of color.

Trees & Shrubs
- 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.
- Don’t overprune palm trees – remove dead leaves and flower/fruit stalks only. A properly pruned palm should have a round canopy, not a feather-duster crown.
- Scout ornamental plants for pests like scale, grasshoppers, caterpillars, and whiteflies. If treatment is needed, treat only the affected area and use a product that targets the pests and not your beneficial insects (like insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, neem and Bt).

Lawns
- Winterize your lawn by mid-September using a fertilizer product containing equal amounts of nitrogen and potassium and no more than 2% phosphorus (15-0-15, 18-2-18). Check the label to determine the appropriate amount to apply or go to http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep236.
- Hand pull perennial weeds that have started setting seed. Chemicals are generally less effective at this later stage of development.
- If winter weeds were a problem last year, get ready to 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 triggers weed seed germination and applying a product (weed-n-feed) this month will be ineffective.

Vegetables & Herbs
- Prepare the fall vegetable garden and begin planting cool season crops. Using transplants from a local garden center will get the garden off to a fast start, but seeds offer more varieties to choose from. For a list of Florida-proven performers, See Vegetable Gardening in Florida: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_vegetable_gardening
- Herbs that can be planted this month include: basil, lemon balm, chives, fennel, sage, oregano and thyme. For more information on herbs, see: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_herbs
- Kohlrabi is the strange looking cousin of the cabbage family. But don’t let that deter you from growing it in your garden. Both bulb and greens can be prepared a variety of tasty ways!
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!!!
Baker County Fair
Sept 13—21

Youth Goat Open Showmanship
Check in—Friday, September 13, 2019 at 3-5:30pm
Parent meeting—Friday, September 13, 2019 at 6pm (if needed)
Saturday, September 14, 2019 at 6pm

Open Swine Show
Check in—Friday, September 13, 2019 at 3-5:30pm
Parent meeting—Friday, September 13, 2019, 6pm (if needed)
Starts—Saturday, September 14, 2019 at 6pm
Release for swine not in market show—Saturday, September 14, 2019, after 10pm

Youth 4-H & FFA Poultry Show
Check in—Friday September 13, 2019, 3-5:30pm
Parent meeting—September 13, 2019 at 6pm (if needed)
Poultry judging—Monday, September 16, 2019 at 4:30pm

Poultry Showmanship
Starts—Monday, September 16, 2019, 6pm
Juniors—8-10
Intermediates—11-13
Senior—14-18

Youth Rabbit Show
Check in—Friday, September 13, 2019 at 3-5:30pm
Parent meeting—Friday, September 13, 2019, 6pm (only if needed)
Monday, September 16, 2019 (immediately after poultry showmanship)

Youth Goat Show
Check in—Friday, September 13, 2019, 3-5:30pm
Parent meeting—Friday, September 13, 2019, 6pm (if necessary)
Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 6pm

Youth Registered Beef Show
Final weigh in—Friday, September 13, 2019, 3-5:30pm
Parent meeting—Sunday, September 15, 2019, 5:30pm

FFA & 4-H Youth Market Steer Show
Final weigh in—Friday, September 13, 2019, 3-5:30pm
Record Book Deadline: Monday, September 16, 2019, 7:00 PM
Tuesday, September 17, 2019 (following beef show)

FFA & 4-H Youth Market Swine Show
Final weigh in—Sunday, September 15, 2019, 2-4:30pm
Parent meeting—Sunday, September 15, 2019 at 5:30pm
Record Book Deadline—Monday, September 16, 2019, 7pm
Show—Wednesday, September 18, 2019, 7:00pm

Non-Market Animal Check-Out:
Saturday, September 21, 2019 after 10pm

For more information on the Baker County Fair, go to http://bakercountyfair.com/

My New Life: Maternity Leave

As many of you already know, my husband and I are expecting our first child very soon! When the baby arrives I will be taking around 16 weeks off from work. I am looking forward to spending time adjusting to my new life with Baby Spann! With that being said, I will not be available for any calls or questions while on maternity leave so I can focus all of my attention on my family.

During this time, clubs will continue meeting as usual. If you have questions about club meeting dates, times, or need any other 4-H information, please contact the Extension office at 259-3520 and they will be able to help you.

Please know that upon my return to work, the 4-H program may look different. We all will need time to adjust to my new life. After hours communication will cease barring an emergency. I ask for your patience when returning to the office, as there may be a delay in response, while catching up on emails, calls, reports, etc.

As always, thank you for your continued support I have received from my 4-H Family! Baker County 4-H will continue to make the best better!
Forage Analysis
Essential for Pastures, Hay, & Cool Season plantings

Testing forages for nutrient analysis is an imperative component of a livestock feeding program. Whether you have horses, cattle, or small ruminants grazing warm seasons or cool seasons, or feed hay, you should be forage testing!

Forage tests tell us the amount of Dry Matter, Water, Crude Protein, Total Digestible Nutrients, and Fiber content (NDF & ADF). These parameters help us measure the quality of a forage and whether or not it is meeting the nutritional requirements of our livestock.

How should you sample? A hay sampler can be rented from the Baker County Extension office for $10 (a $50 deposit will be required to check out device, $40 will be refunded when the device is returned). This device attaches to a drill and will easily collect samples for you. Pastures can easily be sampled by hand cutting forages in a defined area. Give me a call or check out the resources below to learn more about proper sampling!

Costs:
$10 to rent hay sampler
$7 Testing fee per sample (UF Forage Lab)

Links:
https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/aa192

Soil Testing
New & Improved

On September 1st, 2019 the UF Soils Analytics lab will be revising testing and fees. Soil analysis tests will now include pH, lime requirement, along with 8 nutrients (macro and micro) with the addition of sulfur recommendations. The tests have increased in price to $10 per sample as the standard soil test and micro-nutrient tests have now been combined (previously cost $12 combined).

With new tests, come new forms. Make sure you are using the proper soil test form as of September 1st! Now is a great time of year to take advantage of the new combined soil test, especially if you are planning on planting cool season forages in the coming weeks.

Get your submission forms here:
http://soilslab.ifas.ufl.edu/ESTL%20Tests.asp
Contact your local agent for more information on soil testing!

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! Learn from Meat Science Expert, Dr. Chad Carr from UF and enjoy some delicious taste testing! (Lunch will be provided)

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