

The Baker Bulletin



The UF/IFAS Extension Office is available to help you with your farming, gardening, landscaping, and 4-H youth development needs by providing educational programming, free consultations and information. Contact us at:

UF/IFAS Extension Baker County

1025 W. Macclenny Ave. Macclenny, FL 32063

Phone: (904) 259-3520

Email: baker@ifas.ufl.edu

Hours: M—F 8:30 am to 5:00 pm (Closed Noon to 1:00 pm for Lunch)

County Agents

Alicia Lamborn, Horticulture Agent

Shaina Spann, 4-H Youth Development Agent

Alicia Halbritter, Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent



sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/baker



blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/bakerco/



[Agriculture in North Florida](#)

[Baker County Garden Spot](#)

[Baker County 4-H](#)

June 2025



Master Gardener Training p. 2

Horticulture p. 3

Agriculture p. 4

4-H Youth Development p. 5



Extension Tidbits p. 6

Programs & Events

- June 16-19 Wonderful World of Water 4-H Summer Day Camp. See Page 5 for details.
- June 23-26 All About Animals 4-H Summer Day Camp. See Page 5 for details.
- July 7 Master Gardener Volunteer Training Applications Due - see page 2 for details.
- Online Florida-Friendly Landscaping - This free, self-paced, online course will guide you through the 9 principles to keep your yard and garden healthy using less time, money, and resources. Register here: <https://forms.gle/o87D5gYauQVQNQ2s7>
- Online Butterfly Gardening - Learn the basic garden design elements for a successful butterfly garden. Helpful resources and seeds for your garden included! Free, self-paced course. Register here: <https://forms.gle/o3SVghr6xtvwGQ637>





MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Master Gardeners are volunteer educators. With horticultural training from UF/IFAS Extension, Master Gardeners assist the horticulture extension program by working with the public to answer questions, share information, assist with educational projects, and more.

2025 BAKER COUNTY TRAINING DATES

TRAINING

Hybrid class of online & in-person learning

DATES

August 5 – September 23

SCHEDULE

Complete training modules online & attend 4 weekly in-person sessions

In-person Sessions: 9 am to 12 pm on Tuesdays: Aug 12, Aug 19, Sept 2, Sept 9

(Reserved make-up days on Thursdays: Aug 14, Aug 21, Sept 4, Sept 11)

Baker County Extension Office (Ag Center) 1025 W. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny, FL 32063

COST

\$120 includes student manual, field guides, and all training supplies

APPLICATIONS DUE JULY 7



<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/baker/plants-landscapes-edible-gardens/master-gardener-program/>





HIGHLIGHTS IN HORTICULTURE

3

By Alicia Lamborn, Environmental Horticulture Agent

EDIBLES TO PLANT IN *June*



Growing Tips:

Okra: Soak seeds in water for 6 hours for better germination. Okra thrives on a fertile, well-drained soil. An abundance of quickly available fertilizer will stimulate growth and ensure a good yield of tender, high-quality pods. Side-dress plants with fertilizer every 3-4 weeks during the growing season. Harvest pods a few days after flower petals have fallen or pods become tough and stringy.

	North	Central	South
 Easily Survives Transplanting	Boniato, Gingers, Roselle, Tropical Spinaches	Boniato, Gingers, Roselle, Sugarcane, Tropical Spinaches	Sugarcane, Tropical Spinaches
 Transplant Carefully	Amaranth, Calabaza, Long Squash, Luffa, Papaya, Passionfruit, Pigeon Pea, Seminole Pumpkin, Sweet Potatoes	Amaranth, Calabaza, Long Squash, Luffa, Papaya, Passionfruit, Pigeon Pea, Pineapple, Seminole Pumpkin, Sweet Potatoes, Yucca	Amaranth, Papaya, Passionfruit, Pigeon Pea, Pineapple, Sweet Potatoes
 Use Seeds	Chayote, Okra, Peas (southern)	Chayote, Okra, Peas (southern)	Chayote

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For more information, please visit
GardeningSolutions.ifas.ufl.edu

Florida-Friendly Landscaping Tips

June

Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL) means using low-maintenance plants and environmentally sustainable practices to have a beautiful landscape or bountiful garden that saves you time, energy, and money.

✓ PLANT MATCHMAKING:

Turf and landscape plants have different water, fertilizer, and maintenance needs. All it takes is one misplaced shrub to disrupt mowing and irrigation patterns. To conserve water and make maintenance easier, group plants in beds according to water requirements.

✓ COLOR IN THE LANDSCAPE:

One way to design your landscape is by choosing two or three colors that complement each other, and repeating the color combination throughout the landscaped area. You'll create a scene that's visually attractive, and the repetition of color will draw the eye through the planting.

✓ FERTILIZING LAWNS IN SUMMER:

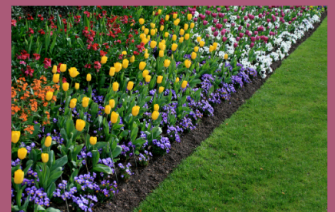
Apply an iron source instead of a nitrogen fertilizer. To green up the lawn without increasing growth, use chelated iron or iron sulfate.

✓ MANAGE YARD PESTS RESPONSIBLY:

Start with low-impact techniques. Always try the safest alternatives first, such as handpicking insects or pruning affected parts of a plant. If the pesticide use does become necessary, choose products that are the least harmful to people, pests, and wildlife. These products include insecticidal soap, horticultural oil, botanicals (e.g. pyrethrum, neem, and rotenone), microbials (e.g. Spinosad, abamectin, and Bacillus thuringiensis 'Kurstaki'), and entomopathogenic nematodes (small worms that kill insects).

✓ REDUCE STORMWATER RUNOFF:

When it rains in Florida, it often pours! A rainstorm can wash exposed soil, landscape debris, oil, fertilizers, and pesticides off your landscape – all of which then become a part of stormwater runoff. This runoff flows into storm drains, ditches, streams, rivers, lakes, and groundwater. One way to reduce runoff is to use porous surfaces (bricks, gravel, turf block, mulch, permeable concrete, etc.) for walkways, driveways, and open patios. These materials allow rainwater to seep into the ground, helping to recharge ground-water and filter pollutants.



FOR MORE
INFORMATION:

 <https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/>

 <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/baker/>

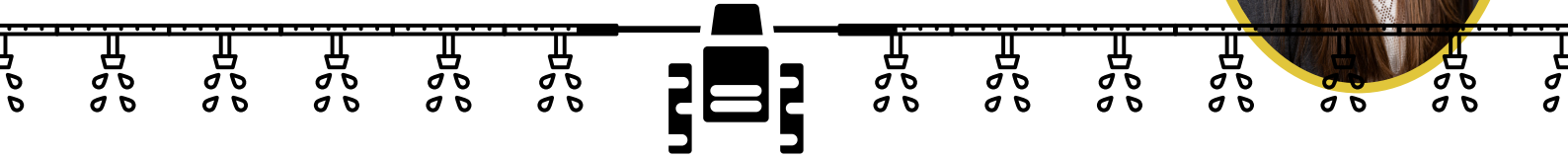
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By Alicia Halbritter, Agriculture Agent



Boom Sprayer Calibration



Calibrating pesticide spray equipment is an important step in ensuring proper application rates. If too little pesticide is applied the pest may not be controlled while using more produce than the label directs is illegal, costly, and may have disastrous effects. When reading the product label of your chosen pesticide, you will see that there is an application rate recommendation. This rate may be specific for the pest you intend to control (insect, disease, weed, etc), and also may differ based on where you are applying the pesticide (pasture, crop field, lawn, etc.). For this reason, it is important to always read the label to determine the proper application rate of the product. Additionally, it is important to ensure your equipment is calibrated properly which verifies you are putting out the intended rate of product during application.

The first step to calibration is performing a nozzle performance test. Find more detailed steps for this test here: <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/PI015>

Begin by filling the sprayer tank with clean water, the tank should have been triple rinsed prior to this step. Make sure that the screens are clean and intact on the tank. It is important that all nozzle tips on the boom are the same type and size.

1. Collect nozzle output from each nozzle using a graduate cylinder for 30 seconds. Recording the amount collected for each during the time.
2. Add the amounts together and divide by the number of nozzles to get average output.
3. Replace any nozzle that is more or less than 10% of the average nozzle output.



Step by Step Calibration

1. Determine test course distance (in feet) by dividing 4080 by your nozzle spacing (in inches):

Course Distance (ft) = $4080 / \text{Nozzle Spacing (in)}$.

Nozzle spacing is the width between nozzles on your boom.

2. Set up a course that allows you to run the test distance found in step 2, with enough room to make a rolling start and reach the desired operating speed at which you would apply the pesticides. Mark the distance with stakes, flags, or some marker at the start and end.

3. Choose a gear setting, engine speed, and pump pressure. Record these values for future reference in step 7. If you need guidance on choosing a setting, reference the manual for your sprayer or nozzle guides.

4. Using a stopwatch begin timing the moment the sprayer enters the test-run area, stopping when the sprayer passes the end flag of the test-run area. The sprayer should be full of clean water, running at operating speed, and actively spraying the water (shut off valve open). It is best to run the course multiple times and take the average time to improve precision.

5. Park the sprayer and set the brake, but maintain the engine rpm at the same used on the test course. Using a clean, graduated container (fluid ounces), collect the water from one nozzle for the same amount of time it took to run the test course in the tractor. (If it took 30 seconds to run the test course in the tractor, collect from the nozzle for 30 seconds).

6. The amount of fluid ounces collected is equal to gallons per acre that would be applied at the same tractor operating settings (speed and rpm). If 20 ounces were collected, then 20 gallons per acre would be applied. This information can then be utilized to ensure the rate of pesticide application matches the recommended rate on the label.

For example, if my sprayer is calibrated to apply 20 gallons of mix per acre, and the recommended rate of application for my chosen pesticide is 1 quart per acre, I would then mix 1 quart of herbicide for every 20 gallons of water in my sprayer. If I have a 100 gallon sprayer, this would properly cover 5 acres of treatment area with 5 quarts of herbicide & 100 gallons of water.



LUCKY CLOVER CHRONICLE

By Shaina Spann, 4-H Youth Development Agent



5



County Day Camps

Camp spots still available!

These day camps will travel to different locations every day! From traversing the Okefenokee to the Alligator Farm to making candied fruit, it's going to be an amazing time! Each day campers will need to bring a lunch with an ice pack and water bottle. We will provide a snack. Transportation for each camp will be provided. Payment SECURES registration and is on a first-come, first-served basis. Camps are Monday - Thursday, 9am-4pm.

June 16-19: Wonderful World of Water [ENROLL](#)

Ages: 8-13 (as of 9/1/24) Cost: \$100

Come explore the water that makes our world! This camp will visit fresh and saltwater ecosystems in Florida.

June 23-26: All About Animals [ENROLL](#)

Ages: 8-13 (as of 9/1/24) Cost: \$100

This camp will explore animals! Participants will visit animals that are exotic, farm, aquatic, and more!

July 14-17: Sweet Treats [ENROLL](#)

Ages 8-13 (as of 9/1/2024) Cost: \$100

This camp will explore all things sweet to eat! From fruit to candies, it's definitely going to be delicious!

July 21-24: Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead Camp [ENROLL](#)

Ages 8-13 (as of 9/1/2024) Cost: \$100

This camp will focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. We will take field trips to various places and investigate the amazing realm of the sciences.

4-H Club Meetings & Events

- June 2-6- Mrs. Shaina on vacation
- June 8-10- iLEAD Gainesville
- June 16-19- Water Camp
- June 23- Baker's Acres Homeschool Club 10am
- June 23- Livestock Club 6pm
- June 23-26- Animal Camp
- July 4th- Office Closed
- July 14- Fair Tag-in 7am, BCHS
- July 14-17- Sweet Treats Camp
- July 19- Fair MARKET Tag-in 7am
- July 21-24- STEAM Camp
- July 26- SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC 8am-11am, BC Fairgrounds

No Cloverbuddies meetings during summer



REMIND APP

text @bakerco4h to 81010 to be added to the 4-H Remind text group.



Check out our Livestock [Google Site!](#)

EXTENSION TIDBITS

Florida Blackberry Iced Tea

Ingredients

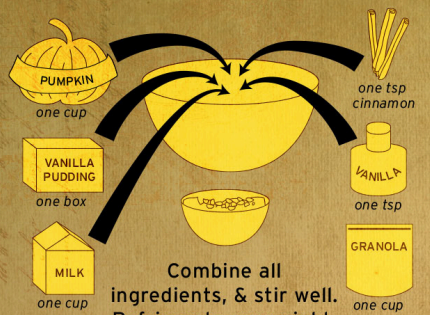
- 2 cups fresh Florida blackberries, plus more for garnish
- 3 tablespoons natural Florida sugar
- 5 bags tea (your favorite)
- 6 cups water plus another 3 cups for later
- 1 lemon, sliced
- Fresh rosemary sprigs for garnish

Preparation

Mash the Florida blackberries and sugar in a large mixing bowl with a fork. Bring the 6 cups of water to a slight boil, then add the tea bags. Cover the water with a lid and let steep for 10 minutes. Carefully remove the tea bags from the water and discard them. Add the tea to the blackberry and sugar mixture while stirring. Set aside at room temperature for a minimum of 30 minutes. Strain the mixture through a colander or strainer. Add the blackberry tea and the other 3 cups of water to a pitcher or carafe and stir to combine. Cover and let sit in the refrigerator overnight. Serve tea in a tall glass filled with ice. Garnish with fresh blackberries, sliced lemon and a sprig of rosemary.

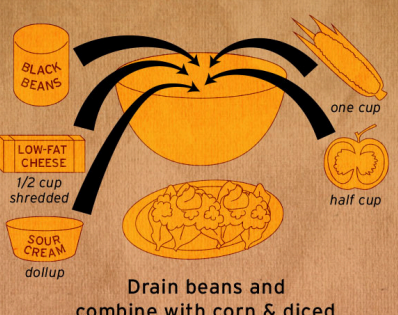
<https://www.followfreshfromflorida.com/recipes/florida-blackberry-iced-tea>

PUMPKIN BREAKFAST PUDDING



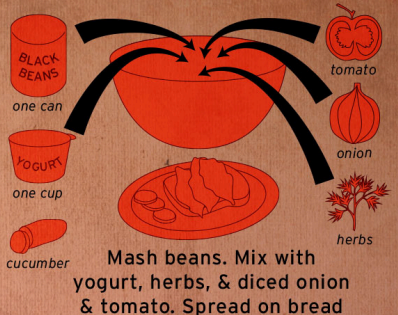
Combine all ingredients, & stir well. Refrigerate over night.

SOUTHWESTERN BEAN SALAD



Drain beans and combine with corn & diced tomato. Spoon onto lettuce & top with sour cream & cheese.

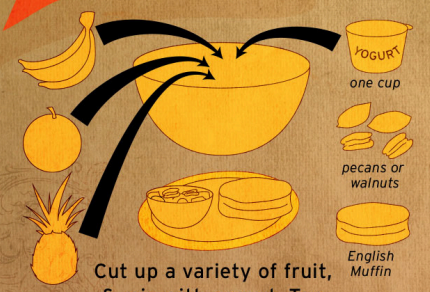
BEAN & VEGGIE SANDWICH



Mash beans. Mix with yogurt, herbs, & diced onion & tomato. Spread on bread with lettuce & cucumber.

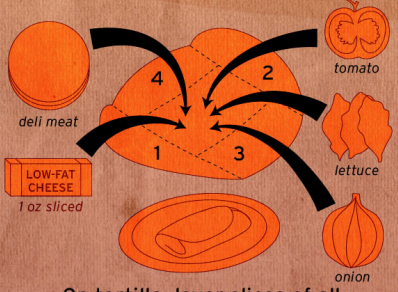
NO-COOK RECIPES

FRESH FRUIT SALAD



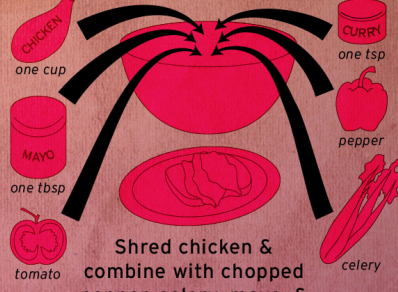
Cut up a variety of fruit, & mix with yogurt. Top with nuts & serve with favorite breakfast bread.

TORTILLA WRAPS



On tortilla, layer slices of all ingredients. Fold in top & bottom, then roll up the sides.

SPICY CHICKEN SANDWICH



Shred chicken & combine with chopped pepper, celery, mayo, & curry. Spread on bread with lettuce & tomato.

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