



The Mayo Clover Leaf



October 2024

Lafayette County Extension, Ag and 4-H News Vol 6 Num 10

Up-Coming Events

Tuesday October 1, Home-school 4-H Club, Clover Buds, Community Club Meetings CANCELED

Friday October 4, Deadline to join 4-H Livestock Judging-Team

Saturday October 5, 4-H State Grilling Competition, 9:00 AM UF Beef Unit

Tuesday October 8, Culinary Club. 3:00 PM 4-H Classroom

Tuesday October 15, Anglers Club meeting. CANCELED due to students out of school.

Tuesday October 22, Archery 4-H Club Meeting. 4-H Classroom, 3:00 PM

Wednesday October 30, 4-H Senior Commodity Pickup 1:30-4:30

Tuesday October 29, Livestock and Forage Field Day, 8:30AM—2:00PM Santa Fe River Ranch, Archer FL

Friday November 8, Lafayette County Livestock Judging Contest

Thursday November 21, Forest Management and Wildfire Mitigation Workshop. Lafayette County Extension Office 9:00

Weather and Agriculture Report

Emily Beach

Even before hurricane Helene brought us around 3 inches of rain we had received several

days of rain that accumulated to 4-6 inches, depending on your location in the county. That period of cloudy and humid days kept crops from being able to mature in a timely manner since there was no way to photosynthesize. It is harvest season so please be patient as you see harvest equipment on the roads and know that our producers are doing everything they can to thrive against many odds.

For the home fall garden, veggies like arugula, beets, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, collards, kale, lettuce, mustard, onions, and turnips are all on the list of things that grow well in our area this time of year.

For the lawn, applying a preemergent when the night temperatures are 55-60 degrees for 4-5 nights in a row will control winter weeds before they appear. Maybe we will reach those temperatures before the end of the month, so just be watching the forecast to make a plan for getting that herbicide spray in. Herbicides like benefin and trifluralin [Team Pro], prodiamine [Barricade], or pendimethalin [Pendulum, Pre-M]) control annual grass and some broadleaf weed species when applied prior to weed seed germination. Bensulide (Bensumec) and dithiopyr (Dimension) also provide preemergence annual grass and broadleaf control.

September Rainfall Totals (in)			
	2024	2023	2022
Cooks Hammock	7.36	3.16	3.03
Mallory Swamp	9.31	0.91	1.33
Midway Tower	7.26	5.53	1.79



Lafayette County Extension Delivers Life Skills Course To Local Students

Darby Pearson

Over the last month, we have begun our Botvin Lifeskills Program with the 6th graders of Lafayette County. This program is backed with much research and many studies proving its efficacy in lowering drug usage in students.

So far we have covered topics such as self-image and decision making, as well as a brief overview of some of the most commonly abused substances. Our aim is to give these students the knowledge and confidence needed to make the right decision in the face of peer pressure or any of life's adversities. In the future we will cover topics ranging from the negative effects of advertising, coping with anxiety, goal setting, communicating with peers, and other valuable life skills that will become increasingly beneficial to them as they get older.

We have been impressed by the students so far! Their willingness to engage with us and this content has been a bright spot in our week! We are looking forward to continuing this program with them.

Lafayette 4-H Annual Tiny House Fundraiser

Shawn Jackson

Lafayette 4-H is excited to announce its annual tiny house fundraiser, featuring a charming 6-foot by 8-foot tiny house. This versatile structure can serve as a playhouse, utility shed, or garden retreat, making it a wonderful addition to any backyard. Built with care by participants of the 4-H Summer Build It Camp, this tiny house represents the hard work and creativity of our young members.

The funds raised from this project will be used in helping Lafayette 4-H reach its goal of purchasing a van for future activities and events. Your support will directly contribute to enriching the experiences of our youth and expanding our community programs.

To enter for a chance to win the tiny house, simply contact a 4-H member or visit the extension office. A donation of \$5 per ticket is appreciated, and every contribution helps us move closer to our goal.

Thank you for supporting Lafayette 4-H and our aspiring builders! Good luck to all participants!

2024 Farm Judging Contest

Farm Judging will be held November 8! This is a contest where participants evaluate commodities like corn, tobacco, peanuts, hay, silage, beef, swine, dairy, and poultry. They also have the option to participate in a farm manager contest to identify agricultural tools, insects, feedstuffs, and weeds as well as take a written portion to put their general agricultural knowledge skills to the test. Any Lafayette 4-H member interested in participating needs to contact us by October 4.

New 4-H Year Off to Good Start

Shawn Jackson

Lafayette 4-H has officially kicked off its 2024-2025 year with enthusiasm and a variety of engaging activities across all clubs. In October, each club gathered for exciting meetings, fostering community and learning among members.

The Homeschool Club dove into the world of propagation, where members crafted self-watering containers and filled them with cuttings of coleus to begin the rooting process. This hands-on project not only taught valuable gardening skills but also sparked interest in plant biology.

Meanwhile, the Cloverbud and Community Club focused on the changing seasons and the new school year. The children engaged in discussions about becoming better students, friends, and family members, culminating in a creative session where they painted wooden pumpkins. This activity allowed them to express their artistic side while reinforcing the theme of growth and renewal.

In the Culinary Club, members made patriotic fruit pizzas by blending powdered sugar, cream cheese, and butter on sugar cookies, then topping them with strawberries and blueberries. This delicious treat was prepared in honor of the upcoming Patriot Day, and the kids learned about the significant events of 9/11, enriching their understanding of history through cooking.

The Anglers Club met at Pickett Lake, where members tried their luck fishing for brim and bass using earthworms. Although the fish weren't biting, the youth enjoyed the recreational outing and the camaraderie that comes from spending time outdoors together.

Finally, the Archery Club members focused on sharpening their skills and safety practices. After watching tutorial videos, they headed outside to practice shooting and even enjoyed a session of hatchet throwing, adding an element of fun to their training.

With such a dynamic start, the 2024-2025 4-H year is well underway. Now is the perfect time to join and participate in a club, engage in judging teams, and take part in livestock shows and contests. Lafayette 4-H welcomes new members and looks forward to another year of growth, learning, and community spirit!

Lafayette 4-H Compete in Quad County Chick-Chain

Shawn Jackson

On Tuesday, September 11th, thirty-one North Florida 4-Hers from Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, and Taylor Counties showcased their hard work and dedication at the fifth annual Quad County 4-H Chick-Chain Show in Madison, FL. This year's event demonstrated the impressive skills and knowledge of young participants in poultry raising and showmanship.

The Quad County 4-H Chick-Chain Show is an annual event for local youth, who begin their journey in the spring by obtaining freshly hatched chicks. Over the months, they care for these chicks, nurturing them into mature hens. Come fall, the hens are shown and judged based on their quality as egg producers, showcasing their growth and development.

Participants were allowed to exhibit up to two hens in this year's show. The event was comprehensive, with hens evaluated not only on their physical attributes but also with exhibitors assessed on their showmanship skills. Additionally, a skillathon portion of the competition challenged the youth's general knowledge of poultry.

The competition was tough, with standout results including Kylie Cacchiotti from Suwannee County 4-H earning Grand Champion for her top-quality hen, Tenley Fillyaw from Lafayette County 4-H winning for her excellent showmanship, and Andimae Collins from Suwannee County 4-H taking first place in the skillathon for her poultry knowledge. Lafayette Intermediate 4-Her Jayda Hendrick placed 1st in her division and Junior 4-Her Karoline Beach received 3rd in her division as well.

The Chick-Chain program offers more than just poultry knowledge. Participants gain valuable insights into poultry nutrition, housing needs, and record-keeping. The program also fosters essential life skills such as budgeting, work ethic, and responsibility, preparing youth for future challenges.

For those interested in joining next year's Chick-Chain program, contact your county extension office to learn more about how to get involved. The Quad County 4-H Chick-Chain Show continues to be a testament to the dedication and hard work of North Florida's youth.



Left to right: Karoline Beach 3rd place division winner showing her white leghorn hen. 1st place division winner Jayda Hendrick. Tenley Fillyaw being honored by Madison County 4-H agent Beth Moore for her 1st place in showmanship.

Stanley and Jeanette Ash named Lafayette County Farm Bureau Farm Family of the Year

Emily Beach

At the Lafayette County Annual Farm Bureau meeting on Monday, September 9, Stanley and Jeanette Ash, along with their family, were the guests of honor in order to recognize them for being the Lafayette County Farm Bureau Farm Family of the Year. This award recognizes producers that exhibit agricultural excellency with environmental stewardship as a guiding principle. The Lafayette County Farm Bureau has a challenging task when voting on the nominees which come from the Lafayette County Extension Ag Agent, Emily Beach, as the farmers in Lafayette County are ever mindful of producing the highest quality commodities through research-based practices.

Stanley and Jeanette started growing sugarcane 25 years ago starting what would become a tradition for their immediate and extended family. The idea was to make a few bottles of cane syrup for their

family but it quickly turned into a small business for them where they cook around 20 rounds a year which produces approximately 1,000 bottles. There are 2 components that make them more than qualified to receive this honor: their drive toward environmental stewardship and the educational component of their operation. Throughout the years, they have attended educational workshops and field days offered from UF/IFAS Extension to gain knowledge of producing high quality sugarcane while following recommended practices for fertilization, irrigation, and controlling weeds and pests. They have experimented with different varieties and continue to change practices for optimum production of juice to produce the best syrup possible.

A very unique part of their operation is their willingness to provide education to the students of Lafayette County and share the experience with them. Each year, the first grade class of Lafayette Elementary School takes a field trip to the farm where Mrs. Jeanette teaches them all about the production of sugar cane from seed to harvest. They then demonstrate how to collect the juice from the cane, where they get to have a taste, which then takes them to the kettle to see the syrup being made. Finally, they get to watch the bottling process. At the end of the day, the students learn how to make their own butter and then enjoy and warm biscuit from Mrs. Jeanette's kitchen with butter and cane syrup. The students always leave with a small bottle of cane syrup to take home so they can tell their families about their experience.

Many people rely on cane syrup from the Ash's in the community, but their reach extends beyond that. They have people order syrup from down south where sugarcane is grown commercially but no cane syrup is made. They also sell their syrup in family-owned stores throughout the state. We are proud that they are holding on to this art that is slowly being forgotten and we hope that their future generations- daughters Susan, Sandy, and Sonya- will continue in this tradition with their families.



Pictured is the Ash Family. Stanley and Jeanette surrounded by their daughters and their families. Lucas and Susan Morgan with Ryan, Kaylin, and Waylon Koon and Ashlyn Morgan. Brian, Sonya, Laura Beth, and Emma Hill; Clint, Sandy, Malah, and Pearson Bass.

Hurricane Helene Disaster Relief Information

Emily Beach, UF/IFAS Lafayette County Extension

Checklist for Agricultural Production:

__1. Record damage by taking pictures, documenting hours spent working and running equipment, and saving receipts for any repair purchases made.

__2. Call your insurance company.

__3. Complete the UF survey: go.ufl.edu/HeleneAgImpacts

*** This reports economic impacts from this disaster and helps agencies know what programs need to be offered and how funds should be distributed***

__4. Register with Farm Service Agency (FSA) by sending an email with your county in the subject line to SM.FPAC.FSA.FLFSADisaster@usda.gov, call the FSA Producer Hotline at 1-877-508-8364, or call the FSA Office at (386) 362-2681.

__5. Contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for the EMERGENCY EQIP Program at (386)362-2622.

SEE REVERSE SIDE OF INCLUDED PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION

__6. Suwannee River Water Management District is offering their normal Cost Share Opportunities in an expedited format. Call SWRMD Office at (386)647-3158 or go to mysuwanneeriver.com -> "Doing Business" -> "Agricultural Cost Share Program" -> scroll down on that page to either log in or download an application.

__8. If needed, you can apply for the short-term, zero-interest Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program:

<https://floridacommerce.my.site.com/RebuildFloridaBusinessLoanFund/s/>

If you aren't sure what programs you qualify for, use this USDA disaster tool:

<https://www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery/disaster-tool>



Pasture, Rangeland, Forage
PRF Insurance
 Collaborative project funded by Southern Extension Risk Management Education Center *2024 Workshops*

Join us for an educational workshop this fall to learn more about how to evaluate & mitigate forage risk on your operation!

All workshops will be from 5:30 -8:00 p.m.
 Dinner and educational materials provided.

Dates	Locations
September 12 th	Houston Co. Extension Office 2030 Kings Chapel Rd. Perry, GA 31069
September 26 th	NRREC Suwannee Valley (Live Oak) 8202 CR 457 Live Oak, FL 32060
October 1 st	Bulloch Co. Extension Office 151 Langston Chapel Rd. Suite 600, Statesboro, GA 30458
October 3 rd	Perdido River Farms 5535 Pouch Rd. Atmore, AL 36502
October 24 th	Range Cattle Research and Education Center 3401 Experiment Station Ona, FL 33865
October 29 th	Gordon Co. Extension Office 1282 SR 53 Spur SW Suite 200 Calhoun, GA 30701
November 7 th	A W Todd Centre 201 Washington Ave Rucellville, AL 35653

Find more information online about the upcoming workshops at prfinsurance.coes.upg.edu



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Workshop Checklist

Who, What, When, Where, Why, & How of PRF Insurance

Learn...

- who qualifies for ...
- why I should use ...
- how I can use ...
- where & when to enroll in ...

...PRF Insurance

Evaluate...

- what is at risk ...
- when it is at risk ...
- how to cover the risk ...

...on my operation

Get your chance to win the
4-H Build It Camp Tiny House!
 Suggested donation of \$5.00 per chance is appreciated. See a 4-H member or stop by the Extension Office.

Limited quantities
FALL SEEDS 2024

Beet, Detroit Dark Red
 Broccoli, Green Sprouting Calabrese
 Cabbage, Golden Acre
 Carrot, Chantenay Red Core
 Cauliflower, Snowball Y Improved
 Collard, Georgia Southern
 Kale, Lacinato
 Lettuce, Parris Island
 Radish, Cherry Belle
 Rutabaga, American Purple Top
 Spinach, Bloomsdale
 Turnip, Purple Top White Globe

All are open-pollinated

Save Your Seeds!

Lafayette County Livestock Judging Contest
Friday, November 8

4-H Senior Commodities
Lafayette County seniors 60+

Day	Date	Time
Wed	October 30, 2024	1:00pm – 4:00pm
Wed	November 20, 2024	1:00pm – 4:00pm
Wed	December 18, 2024	1:00pm – 4:00pm

4-H Meeting Bus Riders:
 For safety purposes, parents should call the office the previous day or morning of meetings to be sure there are no schedule changes and so all youth are accounted for.

IFAS Extension is an equal opportunity Institution. We encourage all races, religions and ethnicities to attend our summer programs. There are scholarships available for minority and underprivileged children. Please contact our office for more information.

Like us on Facebook
 For daily updates on local IFAS, 4-H News and events, visit and “like” our FB Page:
UF IFAS Extension Lafayette County 4-H.

NUTRITION EDUCATION WELLNESS SERIES

FREE AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY!

Upcoming Dates:

9/18/2024

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Class includes information on nutrition, cooking demo, and taste test!

10/2/2024

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Topics are High Blood Pressure/Stroke After class you will receive a FREE blood pressure cuff

Date: 10/3/2024

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Prediabetes/Diabetes After class you will receive a FREE blood sugar monitor

Location:

Lafayette County Public Library
120 NE Crawford Street
Mayo, FL 32066



Florida Department of Health in Lafayette and Suwannee County

For more information contact Health Educators:
Kimberly Brown at Kimberly.Brown@flhealth.gov
or
Beverly Fountain at Beverly.Fountain@flhealth.gov
You can call us at:
386-294-1621 or 386-364-2704



Please join us for a
Forest Management & Wildfire Mitigation Workshop
with a fire demonstration

hosted by UF/IFAS Lafayette Co. Extension and Florida Forest Service

Thursday; November 21, 2024
9:00am-Noon
at the Lafayette County Extension Office

lunch will be provided

Topics addressed will be: forestry herbicide selection and timing (1 Private Applicator/Forestry CEU awarded) as well as planning for, performing, and benefits of prescribed burning.

Please call 294-1279 or email elbeach@ufl.edu to register.

UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



25TH ANNUAL LIVESTOCK & FORAGES FIELD DAY

OCT 29TH, 2024 @ SANTA FE RIVER RANCH
8:30AM - 2:00PM 29220 NW 122nd St., Alachua, FL 32615

DEMOS, INDUSTRY UPDATES, EXPERT PRESENTERS

TOPICS:

- Cattle management and vaccination protocols
- Bull selection and EPDs
- Emerging weed problems and cool-season forages

LUNCH INCLUDED!

REGISTER ONLINE:



Scan with your phone or head to:
<https://2024UFILivestockandForages.eventbrite.com>

\$20 pre-registration

\$40 at the door

Contact Lizzie Whitehead with any questions.
liz.whitehead@ufl.edu
904-966-6224

UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
An Equal Opportunity Institution.



FREE

COTTAGE FOOD LAW



Do you know the laws for making & selling items from your home like

- cookies & cakes
- bread
- freeze dried candy & fruits
- canned salsa / jam / jelly / pickles

This class will help you understand the rules and regulations from an FDAC Inspector



OCTOBER 17, THURSDAY, @ 5:30 PM
LAFAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY