

**October 2017
Wichita County
Extension Office**

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- Preserving Wild Game
- Teal Pumpkin Project
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- Trees
- Subsoil Compaction

State Fair 4-H Results

Thank you to all the 4-H'ers who went the extra mile to prepare and send their qualifying projects to the Kansas State Fair. The results for these are as follows:

Purples

Madison Gould - Foods
Anna Simons - Photography

Blues

Marcy Baker - Fiber Arts - Table Runner
Trevor Biermann - SpaceTech Educational Exhibit
Abby Bishop - Photography
Kelsie Conard - Photography
Amelia Koehn - Photography
Amelia Koehn - Fiber Arts - Quilt
Jentri Porter - Fiber Arts - Needle Work
Anna Simons - Fiber Arts - Quilt

Reds

Kelsie Conard - Photography
Wyatt Gardner - Fiber Arts - Quilt

White

Madison Gould - Clothing Construction

State Fair Market Wheat Show Results

Thank you to all the County Wheat Show participants and those that filled out their information cards for the State Fair Market Wheat Show. Wichita County had a couple winners this year!

Class 1 - White Wheat Varieties -
1st Place - Kenneth Gerstberger Farms - Antero

Class 4 - Westbred/Monsanto HRW Varieties -
1st Place - E&D Farms/Earls Smith - WB Cedar



Family and Consumer Sciences

Aimee Baker CEA, FCS



Our Hands, Our Future!

October 15 is designated as Global Handwashing Day. The theme, Our Hands, Our Future, is a reminder that handwashing protects your health and other life aspects.

This simple practice should be a habit as it is the most effective and inexpensive way to protect your health.

To help promote handwashing, there are many resources from the American Cleaning Institute at <http://bit.ly/2w8cTRJ> and www.fightbac.org/.

“Even in the United States, where soap is plentiful, handwashing doesn’t happen as often as it should.”

After the Hunt: Preserving Wild Game

Hunting season has begun! Wild game provides wholesome, nourishing food, but food safety is key for preserving the meat.

To retain the quality of the meat, it is important to handle and preserve the meat safely and efficiently. The most popular methods to preserve the meat are freezing, dehydrating, or canning.

Pressure canning is the only method to can meat. Be sure your canner is in good working order and remember to adjust the processing pressure for your altitude of residence.

Dehydrating meat into jerky makes a quick snack that is easy to store and is portable. The ideal dehydrating temperature is 140°F. But the meat must be heated, either before or after dehydrating, to 160°F.

Learn more at www.ksre.k-state.edu/foodsafety/topics/animal.html#wild

After the Hunt: Preserving Venison

- Cool the dressed carcass to 35 to 40°F as soon as possible
- Age the carcass at 40°F or less to reduce game taste and tenderize the meat
- Freeze meat for 3 months or less for best quality
- A pressure canner must be used to safely can venison

For more information:
<http://nchfp.uga.edu/tips/fall/venison.html> **K-STATE**
Research and Extension

Teal Pumpkin Project

What's the Teal Pumpkin Project®?

The Teal Pumpkin Project encourages people to raise awareness of food allergies and promotes inclusion of all trick-or-treaters throughout the Halloween season. The steps to participate are:

1. Provide non-food treats for trick-or-treaters.
2. Place a teal pumpkin – the color of food allergy awareness –in front of your home to indicate you have non-food treats available.
3. Display a [free printable sign](#) or premium poster from FARE to explain the meaning of your teal pumpkin.

Why is this important?

Halloween can be a tricky time for families managing food allergies. Many traditional Halloween treats aren't safe for children with life-threatening food allergies. The Teal Pumpkin Project promotes safety, inclusion and respect of individuals managing food allergies. This worldwide movement offers an alternative for kids with food allergies, as well as other children for whom candy is not an option. It keeps Halloween a fun, positive experience for all!

What do I do if I want to participate?

Participating is simple. Pick up some inexpensive toys, and place a teal pumpkin and/or a free printable sign from FARE outside your home to show that you have non-food treats to hand out. Supporting the Teal Pumpkin Project is a simple gesture that can have a big impact.

"The TEAL PUMPKIN PROJECT and the Teal Pumpkin Image are trademarks of Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE)."

Join Aimee on October 20th at 11:30 AM for a presentation on the **Teal Pumpkin Project®**. We will have a short presentation, and then paint a teal pumpkin! Bring your kiddos as well. Light snacks will be provided along with some signs and color pages for the kids! Please sign up at the Extension office by **October 13th at 5 PM.**

Must have at least 10 people signed up or program will be cancelled

Children must be accompanied by an adult



tealpumpkinproject.org



tealpumpkinproject.org

Cultivating the County

Allen Baker, CEA, Agriculture & Natural Resources

Rotation of Vegetable Crops

Rotating vegetable crops is a standard way of helping prevent disease from being carried over from one year to the next. Rotation means that crops are moved to different areas of the garden each year. Planting the same crop, or a related crop, in the same area each year can lead to a build-up of disease. Also, different crops vary in the depth and density of the root system as well as extract different levels of nutrients. As a rule, cool-season crops such as cabbage, peas, lettuce and onions have relatively sparse, shallow root systems and warm-season crops such as tomatoes, peppers and melons have deeper, better developed root systems. Therefore, it can be helpful to rotate warm-season and cool-season crops.

As mentioned earlier, it is also a good idea to avoid planting closely related crops in the same area as diseases may be shared among them. For example, tomatoes, potatoes, peppers and eggplant are closely related. Also, broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage and brussels sprouts share many characteristics in common. For example, do not plant cabbage where broccoli was the previous year or tomatoes where the peppers were.

So, why is this important to bring this up in the fall? Now is the time to make a sketch of your garden so that the layout is not forgotten when it is time to plant next year.

Planting Trees in the Fall

The fall season can be an excellent time to plant trees. During the spring, soils are cold and may be so wet that low oxygen levels inhibit root growth. The warm and moist soils normally associated with fall encourage root growth. Fall root growth means the tree becomes established months before a spring-planted tree and is better able to withstand summer stresses. The best time to plant trees in the fall is early September to late October. This is early enough that roots can become established before the ground freezes. Unfortunately, certain trees do not produce significant root growth during the fall and are better planted in the spring. These include beech, birch, redbud, magnolia, tulip poplar, willow oak, scarlet oak, black oak, willows, and dogwood.

Fall-planted trees require some special care. Remember, that roots are actively growing even though the top is dormant. Make sure the soil stays moist but not soggy. This may require watering not only in the fall but also during the winter months if we experience warm spells that dry the soil. Mulch also is helpful because it minimizes moisture loss and slows the cooling of the soil so root growth continues as long as possible.

Time to Plant Spring-flowering Bulbs

Late September through October is an excellent time to plant spring-flowering bulbs such as crocus, tulips, and daffodils. These plants need to develop roots in the fall and must meet a chilling requirement over the winter in order to bloom in the spring.

Choose a planting site that has full sun to partial shade. The ideal soil would be a sandy loam, but even poor soils can be used if organic material such as peat moss, compost, or aged bark is mixed in. For example, a heavy clay can be amended by mixing in one-third to one-half organic material. Soil pH should be between 6.0 and 7.0.

Bulbs need good aeration as well as good drainage for proper development. It is best if the bulbs are given 12 inches of prepared soil. If one-third organic material were added, this would require mixing 4 inches of organic material with 8 inches of soil. Incorporate about 3 pounds of a complete fertilizer such as a 5-10-5 per 100 square feet during preparation or fertilize according to soil test.

Planting depths vary depending on the size of the bulbs. For example, tulips and hyacinths are set about 6 inches deep, and daffodils are put 6 to 8 inches deep. Smaller bulbs are planted shallower. As a rule of thumb, bulbs are planted two to three times as deep as their width. Planting depth is the distance from the bottom of the bulb to the top of the soil. Large bulbs are normally spaced 4 to 6 inches apart, and small bulbs about 1 to 2 inches. Planting in clumps or irregular masses produces a better display than planting singly.

After placing the bulbs at the proper depth, replace half the soil and add water. This will settle the soil around the bulbs and provide good bulb/soil contact. Add the remaining soil and water again. Although there will be no top growth in the fall, the roots are developing, so soil needs to be kept moist but not soggy. Mulch can be added after the soil has frozen to prevent small bulbs from being heaved out of the soil by alternate freezing and thawing.

Tips to Avoid Subsoil Compaction During Row Crop Harvest

Across much of Kansas the soil conditions are dry as of the time of this publication. On one hand that's a problem for crop production, but on the bright side, soil compaction is less of a problem when soil conditions are dry. Soil water content is a critical factor in soil compaction potential. Moist soils are the most susceptible to compaction. There are different types of soil compaction, but the deep compaction is the main concern at harvest time. Soil compaction occurs when soil particles are pressed together, limiting the space for air and water. The results are decreased permeability, moisture and nutrient stress, and the reduced exchange of gases.

Deep compaction is related to the maximum axle load and is not reduced by distributing the weight across more tires or larger tires. Deep compaction is very difficult to remove with tillage as it occurs at a depth that is beyond the depth of most tillage implements. For example, a moist soil can be compacted to a depth greater than 18 inches by a 10-ton axle load. Removing compaction at that depth will require more horsepower. As the depth of tillage doubles, the necessary horsepower increases by four-fold.

Much agronomic research has been conducted on subsoil compaction. The conclusions are that axle loads greater than 10 tons per axle can be very destructive to soil structure and lead to decreased crop yield potential. These yield effects will be most severe in a dry year, and less so in a wetter year, since soil strength increases as soils dry.

Harvest time is when most fields experience the heaviest loads from combines, silage harvest, and grain carts. Consider the following example:

- An *empty* 1,050-bushel grain cart weighs ~19,700 lbs.
- A *full* 1,050-bushel grain cart weighs ~78,500 lbs (assuming grain weight is ~56 lbs per bushel).
- Assume the cart transfers about 8,000 lbs to the tractor through the wagon tongue.
- The grand total for this example is **70,500 lbs**.
- If the grain cart has two axles, that equals **17.6 tons per axle**.
- A 12-row combine full of corn often exceeds 20 tons per axle.

Of course, producers must traffic fields at harvest time. Two key points for minimizing compaction from heavy axle loads are to limit traffic when fields are wet, and to confine the majority of traffic to end rows when possible. Keep in mind that the first wheel pass causes 70 to 90 percent of the total soil compaction, so preventing random, unnecessary traffic routes on the field is very beneficial.

Don't Overgraze Warm-season Grasses

Remember the old grazing adage "take half and leave half"? Let's see how it applies to your pastures this fall.

"Take half and leave half" was the grazing management recommended for many years on rangeland and for planted warm-season grasses. And in many cases it still is. But today, more emphasis is on grazing techniques that use cross-fences to form multiple paddocks. These techniques are known by many names like management intensive grazing, controlled grazing, even mob grazing. Used correctly, they permit increased stocking rates and can produce excellent animal performance.

How you graze your pastures, though, does not affect the basic growth processes of your grasses. If you severely graze a pasture short, plants in that pasture need extra time to recover before they are grazed again. And warm-season grasses are particularly sensitive to recovery periods that are too short. This is true regardless of whether the plants are in a continuously grazed pasture or the plants are separated into many rotationally grazed paddocks.

Recovery time is particularly important as winter approaches. Extra rain on many pastures recently allowed grass to thrive. You still may have enough growth to provide grazing for another month or two. But plants grazed hard earlier this summer may not have fully recovered yet despite the rain. Severe grazing now, before full recovery from earlier grazing, will weaken plants as they go into winter. Plants probably will survive, but next spring they will green-up later, early growth will be slow, and they'll compete poorly with weeds.

As we approach winter, "take half and leave half" still may be a good management technique. It helps assure that your pastures will be healthy and grow vigorously again next year.



4-H News



4-H Calendar

2017

October

- 1 4-H New Year Begins
- 2 4-H Enrollment/Re-enrollment Begins
- 4 4-H Promotion 3:00pm @ WCES
- 23 4-H Green & White Banquet 6:00pm @ Community Building

November

17-19 4-H Leadership Weekend

4-H Leadership Weekend

Kansas 4-H Leadership Weekend will be held November 17-19, 2017 at Rock Springs 4-H Center.

The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum is for youth ages 14-18 before January 1, 2018 and Kansas Volunteer Forum is for all Kansas 4-H Volunteers.

KYLF will feature leadership workshops, Youth Council Elections, and opportunities to learn and have fun.

The Kansas 4-H Volunteer forum will feature workshops and information to help volunteer be more effective.

This year participants in both forums will register through the same system. Registration deadline is October 15, 2017 for both events at an early bird rate or before November 1, 2017 at

4-H Green & White Banquet Thursday October 23, 6:00 pm

Plan to join in the celebration of 4-H accomplishments from the 2015-2016 4-H year.

4-Hers who have excelled in their fair exhibits and record books will be honored for their achievements. The evening will also include well-deserved recognition for community and project leaders.

The meal will be potluck, so bring your favorite dishes to share with the 4-H community. Dinner rolls, drinks, place settings and cups will be furnished.

The work rotation for the banquet is as follows:

Marienthal Meadowlarks: Set up and Decorate

Pleasant Valley Boosters: Buy & make drinks, get rolls, butter, etc., & cleanup kitchen

Lydia Jayhawkers: Entertainment

All Clubs: Clean-up, put away tables & chairs.

New 4-H Year Begins October 1st

There are several things to keep in mind as the new 4-H year begins:

- Participation forms are now filled out during online enrollment
- This is a good time to invite a non 4-H friend to a meeting. Tell them how much you enjoy 4-H.
- Online Enrollment will begin October 2nd.
- Because of the new 4-H Program Fee, there is now a payment page at the end of enrollment. 4-H Council will be paying the program fee for all Wichita County 4-H'ers. Be sure to choose the "Sponsored" payment option in the drop down box.
- Enrollment is due by January 1, 2018.



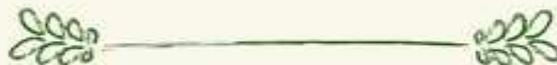
Wichita County Extension October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Hunters Safety Shoot</i>	2	3	4 <i>4-H Promo 3:00 pm</i>	5 <i>Allen & Aimee Record Book Judging– Grant Co</i>	6 <i>Aimee Poverty Stimulation Scott City</i>	7
8	9	10 <i>10:00 am Extension Board MTG 11:00am Extension Annual MTG</i>	11 <i>Fair Board Meeting 7:00pm</i>	12 <i>Allen & Aimee 4-H Record Book Judging Finney Co</i>	13	14
15	16	17 <i>FCE Meeting and Lesson 10:00am - 1:00pm</i>	18	19	20 <i>Teal Pumpkin Project 11:30am Small Room Community Building</i>	21
22	23 <i>Wind and Wheels Meeting 6:00pm</i> <i>Green & White Banquet 6 pm</i>	24 <i>Allen & Aimee 4-H Record Book Judging Scott Co</i>	25	26 <i>Allen– Animal Disease Re- sponse Train- ing @ Commu- nity Building 8:00am- 5:00pm</i>	27	28
29	30	31				

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2017 Holiday Festival



November 11, 2017

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Wichita County Community Building

If your interested in being a vendor please call the
Extension Office 375-2724.