

Kentucky Fruit Facts

May 2009 (5/2009)

Fruit Facts can be found on the web at: <http://www.ca.uky.edu/fruitfacts/>

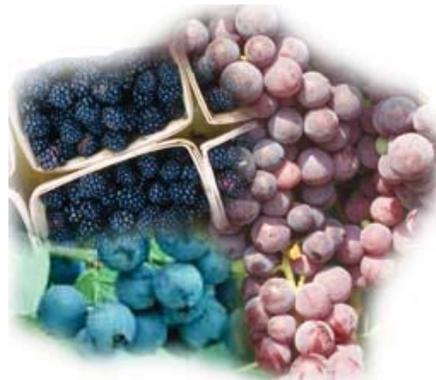
John Strang, Extension Fruit Specialist, Editor
Karen Shahan, Administrative Assistant

Fruit Crop News

We are almost through the frosty weather portion of the season and all of our fruit crops have fared well. We started the season way ahead of schedule, but cool wet weather has brought us back in line with developmental expectations of a normal season. The cloud cover associated with the series of thunderstorms that repeatedly moved across the state has kept night temperatures mostly above freezing. The severe freeze in 2007 put almost all of our apples in a biennial bearing cycle and where thinning programs were not as effective as hoped in 2008 some of these trees, particularly varieties like Golden Delicious that are prone to biennial bearing have a sparse bloom and set. Most commercial apple growers have a fairly heavy bloom on apples and thinning is of prime concern now. As compared to 10 years ago apple producers are now using multiple thinning sprays to adjust their fruit load instead of making one thinning application and hoping that it does the trick. Peach set has been light on some varieties primarily due to rain and cool weather during pollination. Keep the sprayer ready for spraying opportunities as plum curculio, codling moth and the many fruit diseases are not taking a vacation this year.

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The KSHS Orchard Tour at Haney's Appledale Orchard on April 15 was well attended and Don and Mark really rolled out the red carpet. The Haney's have an excellent return bloom and it was good to see how their operation has evolved over the years. During the tour it was noted that all of their pruning was done by retirees over 60 using a chain saw on a pole from the ground. Just about all of the apples and peaches around their sales building are sold pick-your-own. Additionally, they have also been successful selling many of their apples in their outlying blocks this way on an honor basis. Mark and Don said that their sale of multiple apple varieties, where consumers select the varieties and make up their own mix for \$1.50 per pound was working very well.



**KSHS fruit tour with Mark & Don Haney
Appledale Orchards in Nancy, KY**

Ric Bessin noted that the Guthion insecticide will be phased out in 2013 and can be used on apples only up to September 10, 2012. Thus, growers are urged to gradually draw down their supplies of Guthion, because it will be banned on Kentucky fruit crops after this deadline. Ric recently had a grant funded from the Strategic Agricultural Initiative entitled, "Reducing Organophosphate Insecticide Use in Kentucky Apple Orchards" that will begin in October 2009. This will enable work to help familiarize Kentucky apple growers with alternatives to the broad spectrum Guthion and Imidan materials. This work is particularly pertinent as we are seeing some pockets of resistance to Guthion and Imidan for codling moth and oriental fruit moth.

John Hartman discussed the merging of our apple and grape disease and insect models with the Kentucky Mesonet automated weather station system maintained by Western Kentucky University. Currently there are 22 operating Mesonet stations dispersed across the state that provide data every 15 minutes via the internet. John is making predictions using this system for our Apple Alert and Grape Alert list serves to provide growers up to date disease predictive information. Ultimately, growers will be able to use the internet to access data from the closest Mesonet station to provide a more accurate assessment of their orchard/vineyard pest situation and adjust their spray regime accordingly.

Edith Lovett, Family Consumer Science Agent from the Pulaski County office brought growers up to date on canning and freezing techniques and literature. Expectations are that the economy will induce many more families to preserve produce in an effort to keep costs down and this will result in more local produce sales. Marketers will need to be fluent in canning and freezing know how to help consumers be successful. To update your canning and freezing expertise consult Home Freezing Basics (FCS3-334), Freezing Fresh Fruits (FCS3-336), Selecting, Preparing & Canning Fruit & Fruit Products (FCS3-326), and Drying Food at Home (H.E. 3-501) which are on line and available through your County Extension Office.

The EBDC fungicides pose a challenge for growers this year. One of the major production plants in France is being revamped. As a result, Polyram, Manzate and Dithane are unavailable, Mancozeb and Pencozeb supplies are tight and twice the price paid last season. Of these Pencozeb is most available, but not very available. Ziram is also an EBDC fungicide and can be used in the place of the previ-

ously mentioned materials. Captan is another broad spectrum protectant fungicide that does not have an EBDC mode of action that can be substituted for this pesticide class. Chlorothalonil, a material that many of you know as Bravo is a broad spectrum fungicide is under allocation to distributors. Bravo is cleared on stone fruit and we are past the time in which it can be used, but it is used extensively on many vegetable crops.

Growers will want to keep an eye on mite levels this spring and summer after last year's hot dry season and in some cases the use of synthetic pyrethroid insecticides used to control Periodical cicadas. Most of the pyrethroid insecticides and a number of other insecticides kill the primary predatory mite *Amblyseius fallacis* and may lead to high two spot and European red mite populations this season.

Upcoming Meetings

May 19 Mid Mississippi Valley Orchard Tour, Reid's Orchard, Owensboro, KY This is a cooperative tour between the Missouri, Illinois and Kentucky. This is Kentucky's year to host the tour. Contact Annette Heisdorffer 270-685-8480 or John Strang 859-257-5685. *See program below.*

June 6 Summer KY State Beekeepers Assoc. Field Day, Walter T. Kelley Company, Letchfield. The Kentucky State Beekeepers Association, in cooperation with the Walter T. Kelley Company, will hold a beekeeper field day at its summer meeting. The Walter T. Kelley Company will host the event on their factory grounds and will provide lunch. Hands on – in the apiary – classes will be held in the Kelley Company's apiary. Tentative topics (subject to change) include: hive inspections, making splits and divides, how to mark queens and re-queen hives, grafting queen cells, varroa mite treatments and mite monitoring, small hive beetle trapping, pollen trapping, Ross Rounds and comb honey production, pulling honey techniques, honey extraction and more. And like all beekeeping field days, lots of fellowship between beekeepers and "talking bees" will be part of the day. The fun will start at 8 a.m. Central time and will last until about 3 p.m. The only cost is your current KSBA membership dues (\$10) if they are not current, free if your 2009 dues have been paid. If weather should not permit opening hives, an alternative indoor program will be presented. KSBA would like to get an approximate head count for this event to help them prepare for lunch. So if you are

planning on attending, please contact Joe Taylor, KSBA at (270) 879-8654, shopteacher@gmail.com or shop_teacher@yahoo.com, and say “count me in for June 6”! You can also contact Joe if you have any questions regarding the event.

June 23-24 Southern Indiana Fruit Tour, Engelbrecht Orchards, Evansville, IN on June 23 and Reid’s Orchard in Owensboro, KY on June 24. Details will be provided in the next Fruit Facts newsletter.

July 14 U.K. Nursery Crops Program – Air Blast Sprayer Calibration, Green Ridge Tree Farm, 6100 Bardstown, Rd., Elizabethtown, KY. The UK Nursery Crops program is working in collaboration with USDA and Ohio State University to implement air blast sprayer calibrations and a half rate pesticide program. This is a program that has been widely successful in nurseries in Ohio and has saved growers money due to reduced pesticide costs as well as has tremendous environmental benefits. We are going to cover how to calibrate an air blast sprayer, and how to select ½ rate disk and whirl combinations. There will be a panel of growers who are in the ½ rate program that will talk about their experience and level of control and cost savings from the ½ applications. The audience will do a “blind” rating of the two fields – the ½ rate and the full rate fields - for level of control of a few pests – level of damage. Water sensitive paper will be used to demonstrate how sufficient coverage is achieved in the half rate program. Contact Amy Fulcher for registration information (~\$30) at 859-257-1273; email: afulcher@uky.edu

July 23 University of Kentucky Research and Education Center All-Commodity Field Day, UKREC, Princeton, KY. Contact: Win Dunwell, P.O. Box 469, Princeton, KY 42445; 270.365.7541 x 209, Fax 270.365.2667; e-mail, wdunwell@uky.edu

Aug. 1 U.K. & KVS Grape Summer Field Day, Lover’s Leap Vineyards and Winery, Lawrenceburg. Contact Chris Smigell 859-257-3598 or John Strang 859-257-5685.

Jan. 4-5, 2010 Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference and Trade Show. Embassy Suites Hotel, Lexington, KY. Contact John Strang 859-257-5685.

U.K. Horticulture Department Chair - Dr. Robert Houtz

*By Dr. Scott Smith,
Dean U.K. College of Agriculture*



I am pleased to report that Dr. Robert Houtz has accepted my offer to become Chair of the Department of Horticulture. Dr. Houtz’s initial term will begin on or about May 1, 2009.

Many of you will know Bob as an active and successful faculty member in the College since 1985. He has established and continues to lead a nationally distinguished research program in biochemistry and physiology of photosynthesis. He has served in multiple leadership roles at the college, university and national level. He currently is the Director of the undergraduate Agricultural Biotechnology program.

Bob was selected following a rigorous and very constructive internal search. I am deeply appreciative that Bob Geneve and Doug Archbold also were willing to step forward to consider assuming this critical responsibility. The department’s mix of excellent senior faculty leadership with great talent and energy among staff and the less senior faculty ranks emerged in a very positive manner during this process.

I also want to take this opportunity to publicly express both admiration and gratitude to Dewayne Ingram for almost two decades of department leadership. During his term as chair the department made very significant strides forward. Notably, Dewayne and the department have, with distinction, aggressively and successfully addressed the challenge of diversifying Kentucky’s agricultural economy. Equally important,

Dewayne leaves the chair's role with the department in a very strong position to continue to advance. We look forward to Dr. Ingram's future contributions as a distinguished extension faculty leader.

As the University of Kentucky gets more complex, as expectations for achievement increase in all three of our mission areas, and as our resource base constraints tighten, demands on department chairs increase greatly. More than ever, strong departments require strong chairs. I am sincerely gratified that Bob and other outstanding faculty leaders continue to accept these roles. The College administration is fully committed to supporting Bob Houtz's success as Chair of Horticulture, and I am confident that the department will continue to succeed under his administration. I hope you will all join me in thanking Bob for accepting this position and offering full support for him.

Mid Mississippi Valley Orchard Tour Tuesday, May 19

Reid's Orchard, Billy Reid, owner
4818 Hwy 144
Owensboro, KY 42303
270-685-2444 (market)

This is the fourth tour in this cooperative series of tours between Kentucky, Illinois and Missouri since it began in 2005. We visited Bill Jackson's Orchard in Bowling Green, KY in 2005, Bader Farms in Campbell, MO in 2006, and Rendleman Orchards in Alto Pass, IL in 2008. This year's tour is sponsored by the Kentucky State Horticultural Society and the University of Kentucky.

Reid's Orchard is a fifth generation very successful orchard on the outskirts of Owensboro. The orchard is situated next to the Ohio River and as a result has only lost two crops in the last 20 years. It features an excellent farm market, and 225 acres of high-density and semi-dwarf apples, peaches, tart cherries, strawberries, blackberries and vegetables. During the tour Billy and Brad Reid will discuss their experiences with using ammonium thiosulfate to thin peach and apple bloom, a unique Chandler strawberry production system, high density apple training and trellising, greenhouse flower and tomato production and much more.

Reid's Orchard



Directions: Upon entering the Owensboro area, take US 60 By Pass to the right (east). The By Pass ends at US 60 East. Turn right and take US 60 East to the west. After approximately two or three miles take KY 144 which Y's off to the right. Reid's Orchard is on the right in 1/2 mile.

Program:

All times CDT

- 10:00 a.m. Summer Fruit Diseases
- John Hartman, U.K. Extension Plant Pathologist
- 10:30 Fruit Insect Concerns for the Summer
- Ric Bessin, U.K., Extension Entomologist
- 11:00 Tour of Reid's Orchard & Farm Market
- Billy and Brad Reid
- 12:00 **Lunch will be available at no charge for those that preregister.**

Preregister for lunch by e-mailing makelley@email.uky.edu or calling Mary Ann Kelley at 270/365-7541 Ext. 216 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. CDT weekdays by Monday May 18 and give her a count for the Mid Mississippi Valley Orchard Tour at Reid's Orchard.

- 1:00 p.m. Fruit Nutritional Value
- John Strang, U.K. Extension Fruit and Vegetable Specialist
- 1:30 Soil Facts and Saving Dollars on Fertilization
- Greg Schwab, U. K. Extension Soils Specialist
- 2:00 Apple Grower Round Table Discussion
- Larry Ayres, President KSHS, moderator
- 2:30 Adjourn

Questions? Contact John Strang at phone: 859-257-5685; or email: jstrang@uky.edu

Estimating Risks of Fire Blight Infection

By John Hartman, U.K. Extension Plant Pathologist

Fire blight of apple and pear, caused by the bacterium, *Erwinia amylovora*, kills blossoms, fruit spurs, shoots, limbs and, sometimes, whole trees. Fire blight disease in Kentucky is difficult to control. It is unpredictable; epidemics can strike quickly in young orchards where it has never been a problem and yet, in some years, mature orchards with a long history of fire blight may show little disease. Fire blight control is also difficult because the best available antibiotic, streptomycin, works well only when used just before blossom infections occur. An important concept in fire blight management is that infection of the flowers provides a large quantity of inoculum for continued spread of fire blight in the shoots and branches. Preventing fire blight infections during bloom with timely applications of the antibiotic should be the goal.

Can fire blight be predicted? To relate fire blight infection biology to weather conditions, disease models have been developed. Maryblyt (developed by Dr. Paul Steiner, University of Maryland and Gary Lightner, USDA/AFRS, Kearneysville, WV) and Cougarblight (developed by Dr. Timothy Smith, Washington State University) are computer-assisted disease models for predicting fire blight. These models use measurements of temperature and wetness in the orchard to predict infection of open apple or pear flowers by *E. amylovora*.

Both models pre-suppose that fire blight primary infection is a four step process:

- *Erwinia amylovora* bacteria, emerging around last year's fire blight cankers, must be moved to the open flowers by rain-splash or by foraging bees.
- The bacteria must grow and develop a colony on the flower large enough to cause an infection.
- Gentle rain or other wetness is needed to wash the bacteria to the base of the flowers and into the open nectaries so *E. amylovora* can get into the plant.
- Once inside the flower, suitable temperatures will allow the bacteria to continue growing as a parasite and to move within the blossom spur and eventually the tree's twigs and branches.

To predict whether or not a threat from fire blight exists one must know how much bacterial growth might occur on the stigmas of apple and pear flowers. This growth is temperature dependent, so prediction of infection risk requires knowing the temperature while flowers are open (Figures 1, 2, & 3) using degree hour data or average daily temperatures and relating it to rate of bacterial growth at similar temperatures in the laboratory. These calculations, based on recorded temperatures, are done by the computer or they can be done using specially prepared charts. Temperatures determine both the number of days the flower



Figure 1. Apple blossom at the pink stage, not susceptible to fire blight infection.

may be infected and degree of bacterial colony growth. Wetness is the potential trigger of infection, as water moves the bacteria into the nectaries.



Figure 2. Apple blossom open and susceptible to infection.

Typically, while flowers are open, 2-4 days of warm weather, followed by a rain or heavy dew provides conditions needed for infection. Using the disease models, risk potential in the near future may

be evaluated with forecasted temperatures. Thus, managing primary infections of the tree via the flowers can be aided substantially through the use of Maryblyt or Cougarblight. By knowing daily high and low temperatures, rainfall, and tree development stage the computer or the grower calculates when fire blight infections have occurred or when they are likely to occur.



Figure 3. Apple blossom at petal-fall stage and no longer susceptible to infection.

When blossom blight occurs, early symptoms often show ooze droplets or browning of blossom pedicels. The infection of a single flower in a cluster usually kills the entire spur (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Apple blossom/fruit spur killed by fire blight.

As the disease progresses bacteria invade the supporting twig, causing a canker that girdles it, resulting in the loss of other nearby spurs. From the bacteria that build up from these primary infections, infection of new, elongating shoots occurs. The resulting shoot blight, or twig blight, is the most visible and damaging phase of fire blight (Figure 5). Early shoot blight symptoms show a slight wilt of the shoot tip, sometimes with ooze droplets visible on the stem. This is soon followed by leaf and shoot browning and death which proceeds down the shoot.

Will disease predictive systems work?

Some Kentucky growers have used the disease models to determine whether or not to spray. Several years ago, the Maryblyt system was used to calculate the need for fire blight applications by participating Kentucky apple growers. In years with low disease pressure, growers saved one or more streptomycin sprays, with no decrease in tree health, by following these recommendations.



Figure 5. Apple orchard with numerous dead shoots killed by fire blight.

Managing European Red Mites

By Dr. Ric Foster, Purdue University, Extension Entomologist, from Facts for Fancy Fruit Vol 9. Issue 2, April 17, 2009

Managing European red mites is an ongoing challenge for apple growers. Fortunately, we have a number of good tools that we can use to effectively manage this pest.

Oil Sprays

Good coverage with a superior oil spray prior to bloom is an important ERM management strategy that all growers should use. The oil application will coat the eggs, preventing the exchange of gases through the egg shell, suffocating the embryo within the egg shell. The closer to ERM egg hatch (tight cluster) the application is made, the better the control will be because the embryos are respiring more rapidly as they prepare to hatch from the eggs. Superior oil applications will also control some aphids and scales. Oil should be applied only when temperatures are above 40° F, and never just before or after freezing

weather. Superior oil applications after bloom will likely cause phytotoxicity.

Biological Control

In Indiana, the primary biological control agent on ERM is the predatory mite, *Amblyseius fallacis*. There are a number of insecticides used on apples that have a detrimental affect on *Amblyseius fallacis*. Table 1 summarizes the level of toxicity of commonly used apple insecticides on this predatory mite. Growers should choose the least toxic alternative whenever possible to conserve the predator mites in the orchard.

Conserving natural enemies is the key to management of ERM

If you choose insecticides wisely, outbreaks of ERM will be infrequent and can usually be cleared up fairly easily with the miticides currently available. However, if you kill most of your predator mites by choosing highly toxic insecticides, you may have a very difficult time getting the ERM under control, requiring multiple applications of fairly expensive miticides.

Table 1. Toxicity of apple insecticides on predatory mites, especially *Amblyseius fallacis*.

Slightly Non-Toxic	Moderately Toxic	Highly Toxic	Toxic
Dipel (other Bts)	Diazinon	Lorsban	Asana
Cyd-X	Guthion	Supracide	Baythroid
Virosoft	Imidan	Actara	Danitol
	Assail	Calypso	Decis
	Centaur	Clutch	Permethrin
	Confirm	Provado	Proaxis
	Esteem	Avaunt	Warrior
	Intrepid	Surround	Carzol
	Neem	Agri-Mek	Lannate
	Rimon	Envidor	Sevin
	Spintor/Entrust	FujiMite	Vydate
	Endosulfan	Zeal	Kelthane
	Acramite		Nexter
	Apollo		
	Kanemite		
	Savey		
	Vendex		

Table 2. Miticides labeled for use on apples, mode of action groups, use categories, and level of control of European red mites.

Product	Mode of Action Group	Use Category	ERM Control Rating
Agri-Mek	6	Preventive	Good
Apollo	10A	Preventive	Excellent
Savey	10A	Preventive	Excellent
Zeal	10B	Preventive /Rescue	Excellent
Acramite	25	Rescue	Fair
Envidor	23	Rescue	Excellent
FujiMite	21	Rescue	Excellent
Kanemite	20B	Rescue	Good
Kelthane	--	Rescue	Fair
Nexter	21	Rescue	Good
Oberon	23	Rescue	Excellent
Vendex	12B	Rescue	Fair

Chemical Control and Resistant Management

The miticides available for use on apples fall into two general categories, preventive miticides, which are applied before you know if you are going to have a mite problem and rescue miticides, which you will apply when your scouting tells you that the ERM populations have exceeded the treatment threshold.

ERM have shown the ability to develop resistance to a number of miticides. Generally speaking, resistance occurs when a single miticide or related group of miticides are used repeatedly. Each miticide has a particular mode of action. One way of avoiding resistance is to rotate between products with different modes of action. For purposes of avoiding resistance, miticides with the same mode of action should be considered the same miticide. For example, Apollo and Savey are two different products, but they have the same mode of action. So if you repeatedly use one of these products and resistance develops, the mites would also be resistant to the other product. Each miticide is placed into a mode of action group, listed in Table 2. Products in the same group have the same mode of action. To avoid resistance, rotate between products in different groups.

If Agri-Mek, Apollo, or Savey are going to be used as preventive treatments, they should be applied at petal fall or first cover. Zeal can be used either as a preventive or rescue treatment. If using Zeal as a rescue treatment, it should be applied when populations reach

a threshold of 1-2 mites per leaf. Zeal is most effective on eggs and larvae and is not a good choice as a rescue treatment when populations are already high. Rescue treatments should be applied when populations exceed the treatment thresholds.

One program that has been successful for many growers in controlling ERM and avoiding the possibility of resistance includes annual application of superior oils, conservation of predator mites, and a four year rotation of miticides as listed in Table 3.

This rotation of miticides ensures that mites will not be exposed to miticides with a particular mode of action more frequently than once every 4 years, or every 24-32 generations. The likelihood of resistance developing with this rotation is remote.

Some growers have found that when they follow this program, they are able to eliminate some of the preventive applications because mite populations in their orchard are so low. When they do so, they still have the option of choosing to use one of the rescue miticides later if necessary. There are rescue miticides with four separate modes of action that will provide good to excellent control of ERM, so growers have plenty of options from which to choose.

Table 3. Proposed rotation of miticides to maintain control of ERM and avoid development of resistance. This program should be used in conjunction with annual applications of superior oil and conservation of natural enemies.

Year	Management Strategy
1	Preventive application of Apollo (10A) or Savey (10A)
2	Scout and spray rescue miticide if needed -- choose from FujiMite (21), Envidor (23) or Oberon (23)
3	Preventive application of Agri-Mek (6) or Zeal (10B)
4	Scout and spray rescue miticide with different mode of action if necessary -- Choose from Acramite (25), Kanemite (20B), or Zeal (10B)

If your mite populations are consistently low, which probably means you have a good population of predator mites, you can leave out the preventive applications in Years 1 and 3. You would then want to always scout and apply a rescue treatment if populations exceed the thresholds. To avoid resistance, you should never use miticides with the same mode of action in consecutive years. The more years between applications of a mode of action will reduce the likelihood of resistance.

The use of superior oils and conserving natural enemies must be included in a resistance management program. Using these management strategies will reduce ERM populations, either reducing the need for miticide applications or making it more likely that the miticides will provide acceptable levels of control. Just as importantly, oils and predators will eliminate resistant and susceptible mites alike.

Debit and EBT at the Farmers' Market

By Dr. Tim Woods and Nick Wright, U.K. Agricultural Economics Extension

There is a new program in the works for farmers' markets that will allow customers to use debit cards and EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer) cards that are used in the food stamp program at select markets in Kentucky. This summer, a study has been planned that will incorporate a sample of urban and rural markets from across the state. Five test market locations have been selected to participate in the study including the Bell, Christian, Daviess, Franklin and Powell County Farmers' Markets.

Sales are likely to increase by providing customers with alternative purchasing options, attracting a slightly wider customer base. The ability to use EBT cards will also play a big part in increasing sales by bringing low-income consumers to the market. Rural and urban county markets have the potential to benefit from using the technology.

In Bell county, a rural county in southeastern Kentucky, 15% of the population participates in the food stamp program. There are over 5,600 cases of people on food stamps listed in Daviess County, an urban county in western Kentucky. By allowing those who depend on federal assistance access to the farmers' market, the nutritional balance of fruit and vegetables that generally lacks in the low-income population is

likely to improve as well. The table below shows some basic demographics for five selected counties in Kentucky.

UK is teaming up with the Kentucky Farmers' Market Association to conduct research that will help markets quantify the potential benefits from participation in this program. The cost versus benefit analysis will help farmers' markets determine if they are likely to generate enough business to make it feasible to invest in their own debit/EBT machines and follow the necessary protocols involved with participation.



**(Not so long ago... Frozen vineyard
Photo by Lee Brumley**

Kentucky Food Stamp Data: December 2008

	Bell	Christian	Daviess	Franklin	Powell
Population	28,987	80,868	93,756	48,425	13,811
Per Capita Income	\$19,531	\$28,960	\$28,259	\$30,944	\$19,899
% Below Poverty	28.8%	19.0%	15.3%	13.6%	25.6%
Unemployed	9.2%	9.4%	6.6%	5.9%	10.7%
Food Stamps					
Number of Cases	4,375	5,143	5,616	2,940	1,692
Average Benefit	\$232.21	\$249.13	\$236.72	\$255.74	\$241.51
Cases/Population	15.1%	6.4%	6.0%	6.1%	12.3%

2009 KFB Certified Roadside Farm Market Program

From Kentucky Agricultural Report, April 20, 2009, Keeton Communications

Ninety-two members have enrolled in the 2009 Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) Certified Roadside Farm Market Program. Certified Roadside Farm Markets are located across the Commonwealth, spreading from Paducah to Louisa.

In July 1996 the KFB Certified Roadside Farm Market Program was organized to help farmers market their fruits and vegetables directly from roadside markets to consumers across Kentucky. Since then, it has expanded to include farm enterprises such as greenhouses, landscape nurseries, Christmas tree farms, vineyards/wineries, and meat/cheese farm markets.

Markets certified through this program are identified by the cornucopia logo and are listed in the Certified Roadside Farm Market Directory. The program provides collective advertising, promotional items, educational tour opportunities, and other marketing benefits with the intent to increase the net farm income of Certified Roadside Farm Market members.

The 2009 Certified Roadside Farm Market Directory will be available at the beginning of May. The directory is free and available by calling (502) 495-5106 or by e-mailing roadside@kyfb.com. Consumers will also be able to obtain the directory at any of the welcome centers, State Resort Parks, local chambers of commerce/tourism centers or county Farm Bureau offices.

To access a list of the 2009 Certified Roadside Farm Market Members, visit the Roadside Farm Market website at: www.kyfb.com/federation/program-links/roadside-farm-markets/

Receiving Fruit Facts Electronically on the Internet

Fruit Facts is available on the web in the pdf format. To get notification of the monthly Fruit Facts posting automatically and approximately two weeks earlier than it would normally be received via mail, you can subscribe to the UK College of Agriculture's Fruit Facts listserv.

New subscription requests and requests to unsubscribe should be addressed as follows.

To subscribe type "ListServer,l-s-v" in the To: line of your e-mail message.

Please enter a subject in the Subject: line -- the system needs for the Subject line not to be empty (blank).

In the message body, enter the following two lines (nothing more!):

subscribe KY-FRUITFACTS

Or, to unsubscribe, the lines:

unsubscribe KY-FRUITFACTS

You should receive confirmation by return e-mail. If you have a problem, or if you wish to communicate with a person about "fruitfacts", the owner's address (the To: line of the message) is: owner-ky-fruitfacts@lsv.uky.edu



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