



September 2019

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Conference marks 20 years for KY Women in Agriculture

By Matt Ernst, independent writer

Kentucky Women in Agriculture will celebrate the group's twentieth year at its annual conference, Oct. 14th-16th, at the Louisville Marriott East.

Registration for the conference remains open until September 30th, with details available at <https://kywomeninag.squarespace.com/>. The conference is the centerpiece of the group's annual activities, said Lindie Huffman, president, Kentucky Women in Agriculture. "Our mission statement is to empower women through action, engagement and involvement. We're really focusing on the diversity that women bring to the farm, and all the niche markets that women serve."

Dealing with stress on the farm is one theme of this year's conference, which will open with a Farm Dinner Theater, designed by Deborah Reed, a professor in the UK College of Nursing. The Farm Dinner Theater has been held at Kentucky and Tennessee locations, where local volunteer actors complete a 10-minute play with a scenario developed from interviews with real farm families. The play begins conversation about the occupational safety and health hazards faced by farmers.

This year, the conference also offers educational sessions for children, especially those from 2 to 6 years old. "So while Mom's getting



If you go

When: Oct. 14-16

Where: Louisville Marriott East

Details/Register:
[Click here](#)

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Coming up

Oct. 7-9 - Direct Agricultural Marketing Summit, Rosemont, IL. For details, visit <https://localfoodeconomics.com/agsummit/>.

Oct. 17-18 - Hazard Analysis of Critical Control Points (HACCP) training, E.S. Good Barn, 1451 University Dr. Lexington KY 40546. Cost: \$225. Ideal for food manufacturers in small production operations, restaurants, catering, farmers market operators, restaurant operators, etc. For details, see **Page 4**.

Oct. 29 - Twilight Field Day, 5 p.m. CDT, Paducah, KY. Cole crop production and colored cauliflower variety demonstration. For details, see **Page 3**.

Nov. 15-16 - West Virginia Women in Agriculture Conference, Roanoke, WV. For details, [click here](#).



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her personal growth and professional development, the kids are getting engaging lessons about agriculture from FFA members in the region," said Huffman.

The conference will also feature a national keynote speaker, Mary Heffernan of Five Marys Farms. Heffernan, her husband and four daughters live on and operate a ranch in California that direct markets beef, pork and lamb nationally, and eggs and other products regionally. The farm is known for its use of social media marketing and brand development to reach a broad consumer base.

The conference has grown in the past two years, as Kentucky Women in Agriculture reaches beyond its 170-member base. "We love seeing women

who are successful in agriculture and celebrating their successes with them," said Huffman. More than 40 speakers at the conference will share experiences and information that can benefit women in farming and agriculture across the state.

In addition to the annual conference, Kentucky Women in Agriculture maintains a growing list of activities at the district level. These include meetings on farms to learn about enterprises and agricultural issues impacting those communities. The group has also partnered with other organizations to sponsor educational activities, like suicide prevention workshops. Other activities in the works for 2020 will include educational workshops designed to help women develop new enterprises and learn skills needed in some farm enterprises, like plumbing and electrical work.

Extension offices in Kentucky to host high tunnel webinars

From Dr. Rachel Rudolph, UK extension vegetable specialist

A series of high tunnel webinars on a variety of topics will be offered during October. These webinars will be hosted at county extension offices across the state, and will run from 6:30 p.m. until approximately 8 p.m. Eastern time. Please contact your county extension office or county agent (Horticulture or Ag and Natural Resources) to attend. To find contact information for your county extension office, go to <http://extension.ca.uky.edu/county>.

High Tunnel Production in Kentucky

October 3 (Thursday)

- Intro to high tunnels in Kentucky - Dr. Cindy Finneseth
- Incorporating cut flowers into tunnel rotation - Alexis Sheffield
- Strawberry production in tunnels: the good, the bad, and the feasible - Dr. Shawn Wright

October 10 (Thursday)

- Weed management in high tunnels - Dr. Shawn Wright



USDA NRCS photo

- Pest management in high tunnels - Dr. Ric Besin
- Disease management in high tunnels - Dr. Emily Pfeufer

October 15 (Tuesday)

- Organic soil fertility management - Dr. Rachel Rudolph
- Biocontrol of insect pests - Dr. John Obrycki
- Organic management of diseases - Dr. Emily Pfeufer

Seasonal vegetable issues

By Dr. Rachel Rudolph, Extension Vegetable Specialist
“What is wrong with my my tomato plants?”

Here is an example of tomato plants exhibiting symptoms of root-knot nematode (RKN) parasitism. There are two species of RKN known in Kentucky, *Meloidogyne hapla* (Northern root-knot) and *Meloidogyne incognita* (Southern root-knot). This nematode is the most destructive nematode worldwide. It feeds on plant roots and as a result of the feeding, knots or galls form. The severity of the galling depends on population density of this nematode in the soil, the species of nematode, and the host plant. Some cultivars or varieties within the same species of plants have different levels of susceptibility or resistance to RKN. *Meloidogyne hapla* causes less severe galling in most plants compared to *M. incognita*. A larger population density of RKN will cause more severe galling. Galled roots are less able to take up water and nutrients from the soil and less able to transport water and nutrients to the rest of the plant. This results in above ground symptoms that include plants wilting, yellowing and stunting. Parasitism by RKN can cause reduced yields in a wide variety of crops.

RKN can be difficult to manage because it resides in the soil and has a wide host range. The best option is to prevent the spread of RKN into your field or high tunnel. If you think your plants are suffering from RKN parasitism, contact your local county agent for assistance in collecting a sample. If it is determined that there is RKN in your soil, there are management options. Cultural methods of management include crop rota-

tion to a non-host crop, including a cover crop. Clean equipment between fields as RKN can be carried from field to field on tractor tires, rototillers, and any other machinery that comes in contact with soil. There is genetic resistance to Southern RKN. For vegetable growers, using grafted plants with RKN resistance is an option. However, under high temperatures, the resistance can be broken. Chemical methods include nematicides, which can be effective, but should be used with caution as they can be toxic to humans. Nematicides, especially fumigants, can be expensive and require specialized application equipment. An integrated management approach that utilizes several methods is the best option for prolonged and sustainable control of RKN.

For more information on this and other issues in vegetable crops, see ID-172, [An IPM Scouting Guide for Common Pests of Solanaceous Crops in Kentucky](#), and/or ID-235, [An IPM Scouting Guide for Common Problems of High Tunnel and Greenhouse Vegetable Crops in Kentucky](#).



Photo by Rachel Rudolph

Cole crop field day scheduled for October 29th in McCracken County

A Twilight Field Day is scheduled for Tuesday, October 29th, at Huyck Farms, 3005 Cairo Road, Paducah, KY 42001.

The field day, which will begin at 5 p.m. Central time, will feature the basics of cole crop production and a tour of a colored cauliflower demonstration. Daniel Becker, University of Kentucky extension associate for fruits and vegetables, will

lead the field day.

For more information, contact Kathryn Wimberley, horticulture agent, at the McCracken County Extension Office at 270-554-9520.

This field day is funded in part by the Kentucky Horticulture Council through a grant from the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund.

Opportunities approaching for VAPG, SBIR grants

From the From the Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KCARD)

The Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) provides planning funds or working capital to farmers who are adding value to their agricultural products. The program generally requires a business plan and pro forma financials to score well, so starting early is a must. [Click here](#) to access a quick guide to help you determine if VAPG is the right fit for your business. Contact KCARD at (859) 550-3972, or via email at kcard@kcard.info.



Value-Added Producer Grants

Deadline: Expected to open soon

Funding Amounts: Planning - up to \$75,000; Working Capital - up to \$250,000. Dollar to dollar match required.

Eligible Entities: Agricultural producers and producer groups

Links: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/value-added-producer-grants>

Overview: The Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) program is a great opportunity for farmers looking to add value to their raw agricultural commodities. The most popular methods to add value are: change in physical state (think milk to cheese, cow to steak, berries to jelly); marketing it locally (premium for local products); and produced in a manner that enhances value (think organic or sustainable). These grants require a dol-

lar-for-dollar match, but some of the match can be met with in-kind contributions. Successful applicants must show how they will increase their sales and expand their customer base with the project funds.

Small Business Innovation Research Grants (SBIR) - Phase 1

Deadline: October 23, 2019

Funding Amounts: Up to \$100,000 for 8-month projects (if successful the project becomes eligible to apply for Phase 2 grant funds) - No match required.

Eligible Entities: Small businesses

Link: <https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/small-business-innovation-research-program-phase-i>

Overview: The National Institute of Food and Agriculture is requesting applications for 2019 Phase 1: Small Business Innovation Research Grants to help entrepreneurs pursue innovative projects. This program is designed to support research over a broad range of topics including food security and food safety that helps stimulate technological innovations. Successful projects strengthen the role of small businesses in meeting federal research and development goals and bring about private sector commercialization of projects outputs. The program encourages women-owned and social disadvantaged businesses to apply. If you have an innovative idea that you would like to explore, then check out this grant opportunity.

Food manufacturer/food safety manager training set for October

From the Food Systems Innovation Center website

A two-day Hazard Analysis of Critical Control Points (HACCP) training will be offered October 17th-18th at the E.S. Good Barn on the University of Kentucky campus.

This program provides the food manufacturer or food safety managers with a complete package of information and knowledge base to enable HACCP plan design or to work with an existing HACCP program. This program covers the principles of HACCP in depth while applying them to the design of a specific HACCP plan. Program at-

tendees will walk away with knowledge of chemical, physical and biological hazards, regulatory requirements and methods for practical development of a HACCP plan in their own operation. Participants who successfully complete the course will be HACCP certified and registered with the American Meat Institute (AMI) and the International HACCP Alliance.

Date/Time: October 17th-18th, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. EDT

Fee: \$225

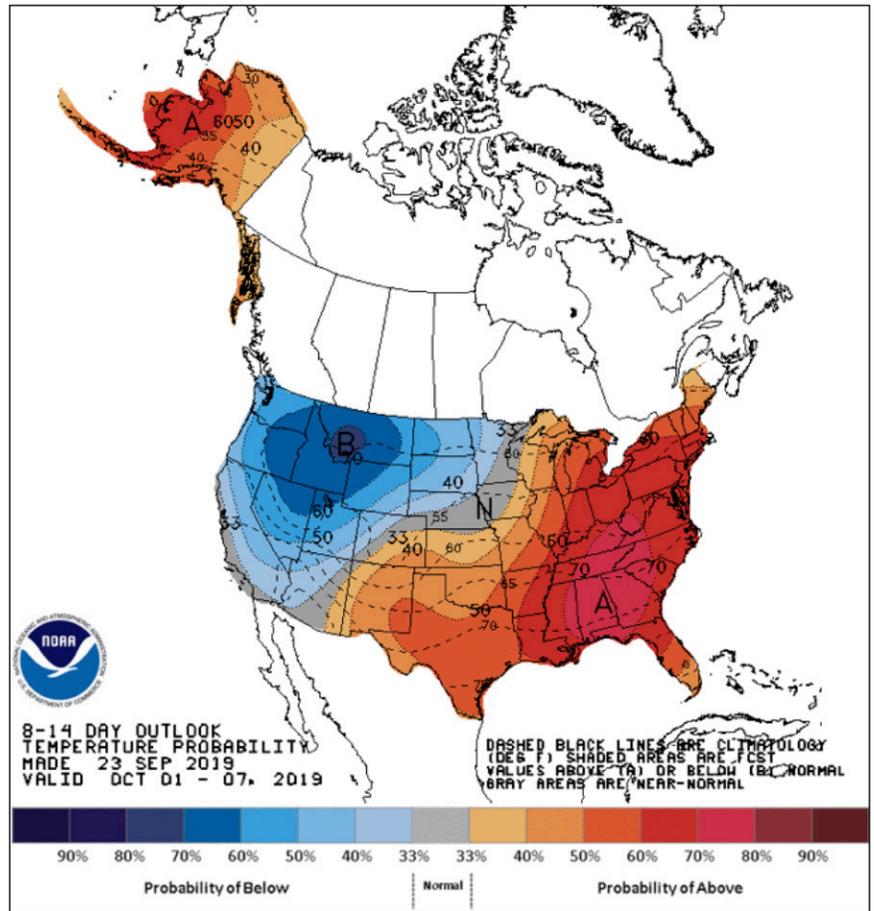
Details/registration: <http://www.uky.edu/fsic/trainings.php>

Warmer than average weather pattern holds into October

By Joshua Knight, senior extension associate, Horticulture

The historical average statewide temperature for KY from 1895-2010 is 68°F for September and 57°F for October. The average September and October temperatures from 1990-2018 are 68.6°F and 57.6°F, respectively. Rolling 30-year averages like these are how the NOAA defines “normal.”

The NOAA’s Long Range Outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center are forecasting above normal temperatures in the first week of October. While short periods of cooler weather are possible as we move further into the month, the overall temperatures are predicted to be warmer than average for all of October.



WVU Extension Small Farm Center offers regional farm tax workshops

From WVU Extension Small Farm Center

The West Virginia University Extension Small Farm Center is presenting farm tax workshops to teach participants how to manage tax liability, which often involves a team approach of professionals and the tax payer. These workshops cover agricultural exemptions, expense tracking, completing a Schedule F, the IRS Farmers Tax Guide, and other tax topics selected by financial experts in agricultural tax law. The cost is \$10, and includes workshop, snacks and materials. [Click here](#) to register.

BARBOURSVILLE - Monday, September 30

Time: 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Hampton Inn Huntington/Barboursville, 1 Cracker Barrel Dr., Barboursville, WV 25504

BECKLEY - Tuesday, October 1

Time: 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Beckley-Raleigh County Convention Center, 200 Armory Dr, Beckley, WV 25801

Key topics include:
Crop Profitability through Recordkeeping

Allowable Expenses & Deductions
Farm Vehicles
Tax Returns
Capital Assets
Easements
Qualified Business Income Deductions
High Tunnel Deduction Reporting
Estate Planning Documentation
Reporting Options on Crop Insurance Income

Thanks for reading!

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