






**Martin-Gatton**  
College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment

MAY 2024

# Agriculture & Natural Resources Newsletter

Magoffin County  
15 Rockhouse Fork Rd  
Salyersville, KY 41465  
(606) 349-1236  
magoffin.ca.uky.edu



**Cooperative Extension Service**  
**PRESENTS**  
**4-H CAMP**  
**"UNDER THE BIG TOP"**



**BE THE STAR OF THE SHOW**  
 Rowan Morgan  
 June 4-7, 2024  
 Magoffin Menifee



*Kristen Stumbo*  
Kristen Stumbo  
County Extension Agent for  
Agriculture & Natural  
Resources

**Cooperative Extension Service**

Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Family and Consumer Sciences  
4-H Youth Development  
Community and Economic Development

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University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.  
Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

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# Safely Keep Your Home Free of Pests as the Weather Warms Up

Source: Rick Durham, UK horticulture extension specialist

Our homes serve as tranquil havens, offering a space to retreat and relax. It's essential to safeguard our living spaces and maintain privacy diligently. As the weather continues to warm up, the emergence of insect pests within, and around, our homes can disrupt this privacy.

To address pest infestations, some may use pesticides to restore order to their gardens, landscapes and indoor spaces. When applying pesticides, employing smart, cautious approaches is crucial for the safety of your household.

Here are several strategies to mitigate these improper pesticides usage risks for you and your family:

- **Select the appropriate pesticide:** Identify the pest causing damage to ensure the ideal pesticide to use. Misusing a pesticide fails to resolve the issue, wasting resources and exposing your family to unnecessary risks. Extension offices are available to assist in accurately identifying pests and selecting the appropriate treatment.
- **Adhering to pesticide label instructions:** Pesticide labels carry legal authority, designed to ensure your safety. Applying a pesticide in a manner not specified could be unsafe or illegal. Additionally, certain pesticides may not be suitable for use in residential areas. You will ensure the safe and effective use of the product against pests by properly following the label's directions.
- **Avoiding combining pesticides with household items:** Use designated equipment for pesticide application, refraining from repurposing these items for household tasks. Mix only the amount of pesticide needed for the task. Properly dispose of any leftovers without using drains or toilets.
- **Wearing protective clothing:** Minimize exposure to pesticides by donning appropriate gear. While specific protective equipment may be recommended on the pesticide label, wearing plastic gloves, closed shoes, socks, long pants and long-sleeved shirts is a minimum safety standard.
- **Keep away from children and pets:** Ensure children and pets are not present in the area during pesticide application, adhering to label guidelines when it's safe to return. If timing is not specified, wait until the pesticide has completely dried is a good best practice
- **Thoroughly cleaning after application:** Clean reusable protective gear and wash application clothing separately from other laundry. Always cleanse your skin and hands thoroughly before consuming food, drinks or tobacco.
- **Storing pesticides safely:** Follow label instructions for proper storage, keeping pesticides out of reach of children and pets and in a temperature-controlled environment. Pesticides should be stored above 40 degrees Fahrenheit, while also avoiding extreme temperatures.

Adopting these practices can significantly reduce the risks associated with pesticide use, ensuring a safer environment for you and your family.

For more information on managing insect pests and correct pesticide use, contact the Magoffin County Extension office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

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# Effective Strategies to Prevent Plant Diseases in Your Garden

Source: Rick Durham, UK horticulture extension specialist

In the unseen sphere of our vegetable gardens, plant pathogens including fungi, bacteria, nematodes and viruses are ever-present threats. However, with proactive measures, gardeners can successfully manage these threats and maintain healthy vegetable gardens. Selecting the right location for your garden is the first step in prevention. Opt for a sunny area with well-drained soil to discourage the growth of pathogens. Raised beds can be an effective solution for improving drainage and air circulation around plants. It's also crucial to clear out old plant debris, which can harbor diseases from the previous season.

When choosing plants, prioritize disease-resistant varieties and inspect any transplants for signs of disease before introducing them to your garden. For seeds, consider those that have been treated with fungicide to give them a better chance of thriving. Planting in warm soil and ensuring proper spacing between plants are additional measures that can minimize stress and disease susceptibility.

Crop rotation is an invaluable strategy, especially in smaller gardens. Changing what's planted in a specific area every few years can prevent the buildup of soil-borne diseases. For crops that are particularly disease-prone, consider skipping their cultivation for a few years or growing them in containers separate from the garden.

Maintaining a weed-free garden throughout the growing season is essential. Weeds can serve as hosts for pests and diseases, transferring them to your vegetable plants. Proper watering techniques can also make a significant difference; water at the base of plants to avoid wetting foliage, and if overhead watering is necessary, do so early in the day to allow leaves to dry.

Avoiding mechanical injury to plants, such as from gardening tools or rough handling, can prevent openings for pathogens. Furthermore, refraining from working in the garden when plants are wet can reduce the spread of diseases.

By taking these steps gardeners can effectively manage plant diseases. This approach not only protects the garden from the myriad of pathogens waiting to attack but also leads to a bountiful and healthy harvest.

For more information on keeping a health garden, contact the Magoffin County office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

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The University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment news and communications team provides monthly Extension Exclusives in the categories of Horticulture, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 4-H and Family & Consumer Sciences. To see more exclusives, visit <https://exclusives.ca.uky.edu>.



# Gardening in Small Spaces

Source: Rick Durham, UK horticulture extension specialist

Gardening in its many forms is a popular hobby in Kentucky. It promotes healthy habits such as spending time outdoors, being physically active and raising homegrown fruits and vegetables for your family. If you live in urban areas, have little space or have limited mobility, you may think gardening won't work for you. However, raised-bed and container gardening are good solutions for these challenges.

Raised-bed gardens allow you to have control over the planting media. You can create your own soil or soilless mixes. This is great for areas with poor soil quality or poor drainage. You'll get better root growth with amended soils and typically higher yields. Raised beds are easier for those with mobility issues because they usually require less stooping and bending during weeding and watering tasks.

Vegetables usually do well in areas that receive full sun, but many will thrive and give you a good crop with less than a full day of sun. For example, carrots, lettuce, radish, spinach, onion, winter squash, cucumber, peas, cauliflower, parsley and Swiss chard will grow in areas with as little as four to six hours of daily sunlight. Make sure you put your raised beds near a good water source as they will dry out quicker than if planted directly into the ground.

Container gardening may be a great solution for those living in apartments and condominiums or those who just want to garden on the patio. You may use just about any container that holds soil and is large enough to support the plant when it's fully grown. You will need drainage holes in the bottom of any container to avoid overwatering. You don't want the plant roots standing in water. Think about clay or wood pots, plastic buckets, wheelbarrows, window boxes and hanging baskets. Try to avoid very small or dark-colored containers as they will hold heat and the root zone could get dangerously overheated in full sun.



Nearly all leafy vegetables will do well in containers. You may find many dwarf varieties of your favorite vegetables that will thrive in containers. Crops with many fruits per plant such as tomatoes are good choices.

The University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service has a publication with many more details about gardening in small spaces. Find and download it here <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ID/ID248/ID248.pdf>.

For more information on gardening, contact the Magoffin County Cooperative Extension Service.

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# Guest Speaker

Larry Young



If you are interested in joining  
the Beekeepers Association please  
call 606-349-1236.



**MEMBERS: PLEASE BRING  
DESSERT**

# Magoffin County Honey Bee Association

May 20th  
Meeting @ 6:00pm  
at the Magoffin County Extension Office



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# KENTUCKY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



KENTUCKY STATE  
UNIVERSITY



**4-H CAMP**  
**JUNE 4-7, 2024**

**Magoffin County 4-H Camp is for youth ages 9-18  
(or 8 years old entering 4th grade in August)**

**Camp Cost: \$50**

**Deadline: May 10, 2024**

**Magoffin Co. Extension Office  
(606) 349-3216**

for more info  
and  
applications  
call:

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# COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



2024 Sweet Potato Slip

# Order Form

Purchaser Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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 Salyersville, KY 41465  
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Varieties/Color/ Days to Maturity

- Beauregard (Red)- 90 Days
- Orleans (Red)- 90 Days
- Bonita (White)- 100 Days
- Covington (Red)- 120 Days
- Murasaki (Purple Skin/ White Flesh)- 120 Days

Pricing \*tax included\*

- 50 Slips- \$22
- 100 Slips- \$32
- 300 Slips- \$48
- 500 Slips- \$65
- 1,000 Slips- \$100

VARIETY	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
TOTAL DUE			

**Orders and pre-payment are required by May 10th, 2024**  
**Make checks payable to: Magoffin Co. Ext. Non-Tax Fund**

Payment Information:  
 Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Received by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check no. \_\_\_\_\_ or Cash \_\_\_\_\_

***Slips are scheduled for delivery the last week of May.  
 The Extension Office will contact you as soon as the slips  
 have been sorted and are available for pickup***





## Scrumptious Strawberry Salad

<b>5 cups</b> spinach	<b>Dressing</b>	<b>3 tablespoons</b>
$\frac{1}{2}$ large cabbage head, chopped	$\frac{3}{4}$ <b>cup</b> plain non-fat	olive oil
<b>1 cup</b> golden raisins	Greek yogurt or	<b><math>\frac{1}{2}</math> teaspoon</b>
<b>1 cup</b> halved red grapes	plain regular yogurt	Dijon mustard
<b>1 pint</b> sliced strawberries	<b>3 tablespoons</b>	<b>1 teaspoon</b>
$\frac{1}{2}$ small red onion, sliced	honey	poppy seeds
$\frac{1}{2}$ <b>cup</b> toasted and chopped	<b>6 tablespoons</b>	<b>1 teaspoon</b> salt
pecans (optional)	apple cider vinegar	<b><math>\frac{1}{2}</math> teaspoon</b> pepper

**Combine** all salad ingredients together in a large bowl. Prepare salad dressing by **mixing** all ingredients together in a jar, **cover**, and **shake** well to combine. **Pour** dressing over salad mixture and **toss** to combine.

**Yield:** 8, 2-cup servings

**Nutritional Analysis:**  
240 calories, 10g fat, 1g saturated fat, 0mg cholesterol, 340mg sodium, 33g carbohydrate, 4g fiber, 27g sugar, 6g added sugars, 5g protein