



Madison County Farm Bureau Federation
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www.madison.kyfb.com

Spring Newsletter Problems with Buzzards

The protected status of the black buzzard isn't flying with some Kentucky farmers who have lost cattle to the ominous scavengers. The problem is so prevalent, it's being discussed at KFB meetings on the state and county levels.



This roost of black buzzards is about eight miles southeast of Shelbyville.

"Across the state we are seeing mounting livestock losses," said KFB Director Danny Wilkinson of Adair County, who has lost calves and heifers. "It's the worst predator I have; much worse than coyotes."

Lyon County FB Director Brent White has launched a crusade of sorts to attack the black buzzard problem after losing cows and calves from a large roost near the Fredonia Valley area in northern Lyon County. He has been speaking to groups and penned a letter that county Farm Bureaus can use.

"It's been a terrible problem for me," White said. "It started about two years ago. I had two newborn calves in a small pasture; they came off a roost and attacked both of them. They killed one. I lost a large cow that had a hip problem; they got up on her back and pecked her eyes out. They've killed a couple more calves. They would follow my herd from paddock to paddock waiting to take advantage of a calf. I've seen some distract the cow while others attacked the calf."

Black buzzards (also called "vultures") are protected under the federal Migratory Bird Act. While most common in rural areas, they're also seen in the city ravaging through garbage cans.

Farmers can get a permit to kill the buzzards with steel shot, but must go through both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and USDA. Some farmers claim that process is cumbersome.

KFB's Public Affairs Division is studying potential options for addressing the problem through legislation or regulations. "We're asking people to document losses and report them to us so we can use that information," said Wilkinson, who chairs KFB's swine advisory committee and serves on the Kentucky Livestock Care Standards Commission.

Turkey vultures also are common in Kentucky, but are not known to attack live animals.

"The black vultures are the ones that will eat live animals," White said. "They are smaller and more aggressive. They will run a turkey (vulture) off a carcass. They are not afraid of humans, either."

White said he wants "to get the word out" in hope that the federal government will develop some form of a quick remedy for farmers. Meanwhile, he advises those with livestock losses to take photos and record the date and location. That information can be used to obtain livestock indemnity loss payments through the Farm Service Agency.

Tagged Post Topics Include: Adair County, Brent White, Danny Wilkinson, Farm Service Agency, Fredonia Valley area, Kentucky Livestock Care Standards Commission, Lyon County, Migratory Bird Act, US Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA

Article printed from KFBNEWSROOM.com

Congressional offices have requested information relative to livestock losses that are credited to Black Vultures predation. Producers experiencing losses should always thoroughly document livestock noting the date of loss, location, number of animals and reason. When Black Vulture predation is the reason for loss, producers are encouraged to photograph the scene clearly showing the vultures as well as photographing Black Vulture roosts in the area. Producers are encouraged to make predation loss documentation and photographs available to: Brad Wilkerson at brad.wilkerson@kyfb.com • Joe Cain at joe.cain@kyfb.com

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RENTAL EQUIPMENT

Hay Wrapper

Cost per bale: \$3.00; \$100 minimum fee
The user will need to provide their own plastic wrap. Two rolls of plastic will wrap approximately 60 rolls of hay that are 4' by 5' in size. Each roll of plastic costs about \$80. Plastic is available locally.

For-Most Cattle Chute

Cattle Chute rental fees: \$50.00/day or \$75.00 for 2 consecutive days

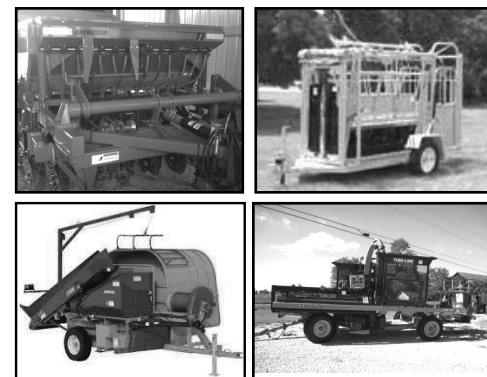
Chute sides are 30" wide at the top and taper in with 6 different adjustments from 22" wide to 9" ensuring any size animal will be held securely yet comfortably centered in the headgate.

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The Ag-Bag system eliminates traditional feed storage problems, such as vertical silos, bunker silos and grain bins. Bag storage can achieve high density feeds in a completely sealed atmosphere.

No-Till Drill

Rental cost of the 7' No-Till Drill is \$8 per acre. The Madison County Soil Conservation District will refund \$3 per acre on the use of this drill. Be sure to keep your receipt and take it to their office at 1024 Ival James Boulevard, Richmond for reimbursement.



If interested in renting any piece of equipment that MCFB rents please contact: Eddie Warren (859) 625-2252 • Tim Brandenburg (859)582-2895

Jointly funded by:
Madison County Phase I Board and Madison County Farm Bureau Federation

MCFB Recipe Corner Pecan Cheesecake Pie

1 refrigerated pie crust
1 package cream cheese (8oz)
¼ c sugar
1 egg

For the pecan layer:

2/3 c dark corn syrup
2 eggs
2/3 c sugar
1 ½ T butter, melted
½ tsp vanilla
1 c pecans

1. Spray a 9 inch pie plate with non stick baking spray. Press the pie crust into the pie plate and crimp the edges. Set aside (do not bake)
2. Beat the cream cheese and sugar until creamy, add the egg and beat again. Spread in the bottom of the unbaked pie crust.
3. Whisk together the dark corn syrup, eggs, sugar, butter and vanilla. Stir in the pecans, gently spoon the mixture over the cheesecake layer. Cover the edges of the pie crust with strips of foil, bake at 350 degrees for 50 minutes. Remove from the oven and let cool completely. Keep refrigerated.

Contessa Harris 1st grade teacher at Glenn Marshall Elementary celebrates Ag Literacy

During Ag Literacy week in my first grade class we did the following:

Read AFBF's Ag book of the year The Apple Orchard Riddle

Used the Ag Mag to go with it

Had Career day where Rick Griebenow from EKUs Farm came and brought a dairy calf for student to learn about. He also taught them about the uses of corn.

Greg Harris brought a cow/calf to school. He taught the students about types of feed cows eat as well as how to care for livestock.

Every Friday in her class they do an Agriculture lesson so students are being exposed each week. After Spring Break they will begin the process of having baby chick eggs and caring for them over a few weeks.



Ms. Arnold's Waco Elementary Kindergarten class celebrates Ag Literacy Week



Also Celebrating Ag literacy week was Waco Elementary. Ms. Arnold's kindergarten class was read to by Mrs. Cooper the book The Apple Orchard Riddle.

2014 Junior High School students have a great opportunity to attend IFAL

IFAL (Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders) is a unique five-day summer leadership conference that exposes students to college life and explores different fields of study for careers in agriculture. IFAL participants will live in university dormitories, eat in university dining facilities and become acquainted with the college campuses of Murray State University and the University of Kentucky. The conference will include special building recreation, fellowship and visits to research

farms and agriculture-related industries. IFAL applications are available from your local County Farm Bureau office or may be downloaded at kyfb.com/IFAL, applications must be completed and returned to your County Farm Bureau by April 17, 2015.

IFAL Conference @ MSU: June 14-18, 2015

IFAL Conference @ UK: June 21-25, 2015

Cost to attend IFAL is \$300 per participant to be paid by the County Farm Bureau or sponsoring organization.



Congressional Tour

Approximately 213 Kentucky Farm Bureau members attended the Congressional Tour in Washington D.C. the last week of February, 2015 for visits with Kentucky's Congressional delegation, presentations on policy issues and tours of local attractions. Both of Kentucky's U.S. Senators – Mitch McConnell (R) and Rand Paul (R) – as well as all six of the U.S. Representatives from Kentucky – Andy Barr (R), Brett Guthrie (R), Thomas Massie (R), Hal Rogers, and Ed Whitlock – addressed the KFB group during the breakfast, offering updates on the work being done in our nation's capitol. Senator McConnell, a long-time champion of trade issues, stressed the importance of finalizing some crucial trade agreements. Traveling to Washington, D.C., empowers our grassroots leaders and gives them the opportunity to meet their member of Congress one-on-one. MCFB Federation Secretary Chris Cooper and wife Patty attended the 2015 Congressional Tour.

2015 Legislative Dinner was held in February at the Madison County Farm Bureau office to discuss local and state issues that relate to agriculture



Madison County Farm Bureau Federation held a dinner for our local State Representatives, and Senator to discuss local and state issues related to farming and farm related issues

Madison County Farm Bureau Federation's Women's Committee participates in "Food Check Out Week" February 15-21, 2015

"Food Check-Out Week" was started 19 years ago to remind consumers of how they benefit from the work of farmers. While that remains the primary message, Farm Bureau also is stressing nutrition and value in the food supply. At our local level Rose Ann House, MCFB Women's Chair, made a donation of \$100.00 to Home Meals Delivery in Richmond and handed out education pamphlets about where our food comes from, at Super Save, located on Keeneland Dr.



2015 Annual County/City Official Appreciation Dinner

Madison County Farm Bureau Federation annual County/City Official Appreciation dinner was held on March 16, 2015 at our new community room in the lower level of the Berea Farm Bureau office. With approximately 25 elected officials present. Madison County Farm Bureau holds this annual event as an opportunity to say "thank you" and discuss farming related issues and concerns in Madison County.



Farmer's Market Information

Downtown Richmond Farmers' Market: www.downtownrichmondfarmersmarket.com

Berea Farmers' Market: <http://bereafarmersmarket.org/>

Madison County Farmers' Market: <http://www.madisoncountyfarmersmarket.com>

Madison County Farm Bureau Federation Membership Discount Program April-June 2015 - Coupons Expire 6-30-15

BLUE GRASS STOCKYARDS OF RICHMOND, LLC

347 K. Street, Richmond, KY 40475
Stockyard 623-1280

Cattle Sales Every Friday

Sale Time: 9:30am • Location: 348 K Street, Richmond, KY

Goat Sales Every Second Monday of each Month

Sale Time: 1:00pm • Location: 348 K Street, Richmond, KY

For information contact **Jim Dause 859-314-7211** or **Darrell Tate 859-893-8283**



Kentucky Farm Bureau is only a touch away. Download our app today. Our new iPhone app provides members and non-members alike with access to the latest agricultural industry news, essential public affairs information, action alerts and daily market updates. The app also offers important details about member benefits and helps you connect with Kentucky Farm Bureau on social media.

Olde Homestead Primitives

Home Décor • Antiques

Owners: David and Debbie Rogers
202 Wayne Drive, Unit A
Richmond, KY • Ph: 859-623-4226

\$2⁰⁰ off large jar candleberry candle with coupon.

Mario's Pizza

636 Chestnut St. Berea, KY 40403
859-986-2331

**BUY 1 GET 1 FREE
Pizza Buffet, with coupon.**

Coupon expires June 30, 2015

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10% off service up to \$100.00 savings with coupon.

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Coupon expires June 30, 2015

Warren Farm Greenhouse

2325 Barnes Mill Road
Phone: 859-328-7005

Month of April **\$2.00 off** all hanging baskets with coupon

Expires 4/30/15

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The plan offers members 10%-60% off regular prices on eyeglasses and contact lenses. Program available through a network of licensed optometrists and ophthalmologists throughout Kentucky. Call 1-800-800-EYES for the participating provider nearest you or visit www.coasttocoastvision.com.



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Save **\$5⁰⁰** off any purchase of \$25⁰⁰ or more, some exclusions apply.

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