

# Morgan County Extension Newsletter



Cooperative  
Extension Service

## Morgan County Extension Service Announces

### Personnel Updates and New Hire

The UK Cooperative Extension Service, in partnership with the Morgan County Extension District Board, is pleased to announce several key personnel updates. As the community's connection to the University of Kentucky and the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, the Morgan County Extension Office remains deeply committed to addressing local needs and providing valuable services to farmers, families, and youth. These staffing changes reflect the strength and dedication of our Extension team, and we are confident they will continue to uphold our mission with excellence.

#### Kim Lane

After 20 years of outstanding service as the Morgan County Extension Agent for 4-H Youth Development, Kim Lane will transition to the role of **County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences**, effective May 1. Kim began her Extension career in 2003 as the Menifee County CEA for Family and Consumer Sciences/4-H and moved to Morgan County 4-H in 2005. She holds a degree in Child and Family Studies with a focus on Nutrition and Dietetics from Berea College. Known for her dedication, innovative programming, and collaborative spirit, Kim is poised to bring the same energy and commitment to her new role.



#### Lacy May

Stepping into the role of **County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources** is Lacy May, effective May 1. Lacy began her Extension journey in 2013 as the Magoffin County CEA for 4-H Youth Development. In 2020, she transitioned to the classroom, teaching agricultural education at Morgan County High School. She holds a B.S. in Agricultural Science and a Master's in Agricultural Education, both from Morehead State University. Lacy's success in the classroom, previous Extension work, and experience as a beef cattle owner/operator give her a unique perspective on the needs of local farmers. Her combination of field knowledge and teaching experience will be a great asset to the community.



#### Valerie Williams


Valerie Williams has accepted the position of **Nutrition Education Program Assistant**, with her transition effective April 21. Valerie has been a key support across all program areas and is known for her enthusiastic approach and passion for Extension's mission. Her love for nutritious cooking and commitment to education will shine in this new role, especially in her work with limited-resource audiences and youth.



#### Other Members

Completing the Morgan County Extension team are **Sarah Fannin, County Extension Director**, and **Angie Ferguson, Staff Assistant**. The University of Kentucky is currently accepting applications for the County Extension Agent for 4-H Youth Development position.

*We look forward to the positive impact these team members  
will continue to make in Morgan County!*



**Cooperative Extension Service**

**MORGAN COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE**

*Cooking Through the Calendar*

**LEMON BROCCOLI PASTA**

For each time you attend a Cooking Through the Calendar Class your name will be entered into a giveaway for a vacuum sealer and a crockpot to be given out at the end of the year class.


**Register by calling:**  
606-743-3292 or  
**emailing:**  
kim.lane@uky.edu

**Tuesday,  
April 22nd  
@ 5pm**  
Morgan County  
Extension Service  
West Liberty, KY 41472



Cooperative Extension Service  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
410 Youth Development  
Community and Economic Development  
Lexington, KY 40506

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT  
Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or receipt of public child support services. Discrimination on the basis of disability may be prohibited under prior notice. Program information may be available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, US Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Cooperative Extension  
Lexington, KY 40506



**Cooperative Extension Service**

**DISCOVER**

**KEHA A HIDDEN TREASURE**

**Morgan County Extension Homemakers' Annual Meeting**  
**May 16<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm**

**Morgan County Extension Service**  
**1002 Prestonsburg Street**  
**West Liberty, KY 41472**

**MORE INFORMATION**

606-743-3292 kim.lane@uky.edu

Cooperative Extension Service  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
410 Youth Development  
Community and Economic Development  
Lexington, KY 40506

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Lexington, KY 40506

**GRADUATING  
SENIORS!**



**Cooperative Extension Service**

**ATTENTION 2025 MORGAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!!**

**Morgan County Extension Homemakers**  
**are offering a \$500.00 Scholarship**

**This is open to ALL seniors, male and female.**

**NOT limited to Family and Consumer Sciences related fields.**

**Application Forms are available from the**  
**Morgan County Extension Service, Morgan County Public Library**  
**and Morgan County High School.**

**Deadline to apply is April 21, 2025**

**Contact the Morgan County Extension Service at**  
**606-743-3292 for details or to request an application.**

**Cooperative Extension Service**

Agriculture and Natural Resources  
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Lexington, KY 40506





## Camper Application Morgan County 4-H Camp 2025

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Extension Service



Morgan County 4-H Camp is for youth ages 9-13  
(or 8 years old entering 4th grade.)

14-15 year olds can go as a JCITY (JC's in Training)

Spaces fill up on a first-come basis.

Camp Cost: \$225

Deadline: May 2nd, 2025

Partial Scholarships are available upon request for those with financial concerns.

The 2025 Camp theme is Superheroes!!

Campers will participate in a costume contest, talent show,  
and cabin decoration contest.

\*\*\*WE WILL BE DOING MESSY GAMES AGAIN THIS YEAR\*\*\*

BRING CLOTHING THAT YOU DON'T MIND GETTING MESSY.

WE WILL GO OVER MORE AT ORIENTATION ON MAY 20TH!

ORIENTATION IS MANDATORY!!

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Extension Service

MARTIN-GATTION COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT  
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## Morgan County 4-H

### County 4-H Demonstration & Speech Contests

Monday, April 28

5:30 pm Registration

6:00 pm Contest Begins

@Morgan Central Elementary School

3201 US-460, West Liberty, KY 41472

The Morgan County 4-H Demonstration & Speech Contest will consist of students that have won 1st place in Demonstrations & Speeches at their schools.

Please call 606-743-3292 or  
email: kim.lane@uky.edu  
with any questions

Winners from  
County Contest will  
receive a 4-H Camp  
Scholarship  
1st - \$25  
2nd - \$15  
3rd - \$10

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## Cattle Working Contest



Animal Science Pathway Students and 4-H Teen Club Members attended the cattle working clinic and contest on March 25 at the UK Robinson Center. They received hands on experience and earned their Beef Quality and Care Assurance certification. We also had some winners!! Our all female team was the first place team overall!! Team members included Gracie Phipps, Harper Keaton, Julia Lumpkins, Hannah Lykins, and Meagan Keaton!! Harper Keaton was name 3<sup>rd</sup> place individual. overall!!





### **Tomato High Tunnel Grower Short Course**

Join University of Kentucky Extension Vegetable Specialists for a series of on demand videos about commercial tomato high tunnel production. Videos will include information on soil and site preparation, planting /transplanting, disease and insect management, and harvest and storage best practices. Videos will be posted throughout the growing season to coincide with real-time grower production processes. Register to receive email updates about new videos at: <https://bit.ly/4fmT8X1>.

### **High Tunnel Tomato Production Grower Shortcourse**

Videos posted  
February - August, 2025

#### Topics include:

- Soil & Site Preparation
- Planting/Transplanting
- Insect Management
- Disease Management
- Harvest & Storage

Register to receive email  
notification at:  
<https://bit.ly/4fmT8X1>



Martin Galtner  
University of Kentucky  
Vegetable Specialist



### **Forage Timely Tips: April**

- Graze winter annuals that were seeded last fall.
- Graze cover crops using temporary fencing.
- As pasture growth begins, rotate through pastures quickly to keep up with the fast growth of spring.
- Creep-graze calves and lambs, allowing them access to highest quality pasture.
- Finish re-seeding winter feeding sites where soil disturbance and sod damage-occurred.
- As pasture growth exceeds the needs of the livestock, remove some fields from the rotation and allow growth to accumulate for hay or haylage
- Determine need for supplemental warm season forages such as pearl millet or sudangrass. Wait till May to plant though.
- Flash graze pastures newly seeded with clovers to manage competition.





## **Recommendations for Starting Disease-Free Vegetable Transplants**



Home gardeners and commercial growers likely have placed their seed orders or have last year's seed saved. Over the next few weeks, many will plant those seeds in order to establish transplants for spring and summer gardens. In some cases, those seeds may germinate, wither, and die. In other cases, plants may establish but become diseased shortly after transplanting. This damping-off can be caused by a number of soilborne fungi or fungus-like water molds, often the result of infected seed or from contaminated soil or containers. More information on damping-off diseases can be found in the publication *Damping-off of Vegetables & Herbaceous Ornamentals* (PPFS-GEN-03). Numerous steps can be taken to prevent the occurrence of seedling diseases.

### **Purchase Pathogen-Free Seed**

When purchasing seeds from suppliers, select seeds that are certified free of disease-causing pathogens. Different sellers may have different seed-testing practices. Information about whether or not seeds are certified disease-free can be found online, in seed catalogs, or on seed packets.

### **Heat-Treat Seed**

Many home gardeners choose to save seeds from year to year, particularly in the case of heirloom varieties. However, pathogens may be present on the exterior and/or interior of seeds, even if not visible. This may also be true of purchased seeds that are not certified disease-free. Hot water seed treatment may be used for certain types of vegetables to kill pathogens. In this process, seeds are pretreated in a water bath at 100°F for five minutes. Seeds are then transferred to a second water bath set at a specified temperature, typically between 118 and 125°F, for a specified period of time. The temperature and treatment time varies depending on the type of seed being treated. Reference the publication *Disease Management Practices for Saved Vegetable Seeds*. There are certain types of vegetable seeds that cannot be heat treated, such as peas, beans, and most cucurbits; seed pretreated with fungicides also should not be hot water-treated.

### **Surface Sterilize Transplant Trays**

Reused transplant trays can harbor disease-causing pathogens. If trays are reused, all soil and plant debris should be removed. Trays can then be sterilized using a solution of one part household bleach to nine parts water (10% bleach) or a disinfectant. Pots and metal stakes should be sterilized in a similar way. For additional information on cleaning and disinfection of trays can be found in the *Cleaning & Disinfecting Home Garden Tools & Equipment* and *Cleaning & Sanitizing Commercial Greenhouse Surfaces* publications.

### **Pasteurize Planting Media**

Planting media can also contain pathogen propagules that may infect seeds or seedlings. Always use new planting media for starting seeds, as most purchased media is typically pathogen-free. If media is suspected of being contaminated, pasteurization (heating up soil) can eliminate pathogens. To pasteurize, put well-moistened soil in a metal container (such as a disposable cake pan) and heat at 200°F for 46 to 60 minutes, or microwave in a glass pan for 30 seconds, mix, and repeat until soil is evenly heated (approximately 3 minutes total time).

## SWEET POTATO SLIP ORDERS



Cooperative  
Extension Service  
Morgan County  
1002 Prestonsburg St.  
West Liberty, KY 41472  
Phone: (606) 743-3292  
Fax: (606) 743-3184

For more information  
contact:  
Sarah Fannin,  
Morgan County Director  
sfannin@uky.edu

The sweet potato slip varieties being offered for 2025 include:

**\*Beauregard-** A bushy, vine-type sweet potato with rose-colored skin and a light, moist, orange flesh. It resists cracking and is an excellent yielder with a 90 day growing season.

**\*White Bonita-** White variety, great flavor! This replaces the O'Henry. It is a good yielder with a growing season of 100 days.

**\*Covington-** A bushy variety, that is very uniform in shape with exceptional results. A high-quality eating potato with rose-colored skin that is slightly darker than Beauregard and a moist, orange flesh. It has a 120 day growing season.

**\*Murasaki- (LIMITED AMOUNT)** Purple skin with white flesh. It has a 120 day growing season.

There are approximately 1,000 plants per box.

Shipping costs are included- there is a \$5 annual membership fee.  
Sales taxes will be added- unless a copy of tax exempt form is provided.

First come, First Served with Payment Policy!  
**Orders DUE May 2nd. \*\*All orders must be prepaid. \*\*\***

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Agriculture and Natural Resources  
1975 and 1996 National Organic  
Certification and Production Standards

MARTIN-GAYTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT  
Advanced degrees in Plant and Animal Sciences, Horticulture, and Food Science are available at the college. The college is a member of the National Association of Colleges and Universities (NACU) and the National Association of Agricultural Colleges and Universities (NAACU). The college is also a member of the National Association of Plant and Soil Scientists (NAPSS) and the National Association of Food and Nutrition Professionals (NAFNP).



## 2025 Sweet Potato Order Form Due May 2, 2025

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Plant	Price	Number Ordered	Total
Beauregard, 90 days Red Variety	\$90.00 / 1,000 plants	_____ x \$90	
White Bonita, 100 days White Variety, replaces O'Henry	\$90.00 / 1,000 plants	_____ x \$90	
Covington, 120 days Red Commercial type	\$90.00 / 1,000 plants	_____ x \$90	
Murasaki, 120 days Purple skin, white flesh	\$90.00 / 1,000 plants	_____ x \$90	

SUBTOTAL

TAXES X 0.06

(If tax exempt, please provide copy of form)

Membership Fee \$5.00/person

TOTAL DUE

For official use:  
Cash or Check # \_\_\_\_\_  
Date paid: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount paid: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date picked up: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*Orders should arrive the last week of May\*\*\*

Please note: **\*\*\*\*ORDERS MUST BE PREPAID**

Make checks payable to "EKSPGA"

Return form with payment to:  
Morgan Co. Extension Service  
Sarah Fannin, County Director  
PO Box 35

West Liberty, KY 41472

Plan on picking up plants at the Morgan County Extension Office  
or through arrangements made with your local Extension Office.



**Cooperative  
Extension Service**

## MORGAN COUNTY 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS ARCHERY AND RIFLE

**Sign-ups/First Meeting  
April 29th, 2025 @ 7pm**

**Mandatory Safety Meetings  
May 6th and 13th @ 7pm**

- Make Friends
- Learn a New Skill
- Gain Confidence
- Have lots of Fun!!

**For more details contact  
Morgan County Extension office  
(606) 743-3292**

**LOCATION:  
Morgan County Extension Service  
1002 Prestonsburg Street  
West Liberty, KY 41472**

**REGISTRATION FEE: \$25**

Cooperative  
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agriculture and natural resources  
family and consumer sciences  
4-H youth development  
community and economic development

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### Upcoming Events/Programs

We are finishing up on our plant sales: we still have strawberries, blueberries, raspberry, blackberries and onion plants available while supplies last!

April 21 - Deadline to enter Homemaker's Scholarship for graduating seniors

April 22 - Cooking Through the Calendar 5pm

April 28 - 4-H County Communication Contest 5:30pm at Morgan Central Elementary  
CEC Meeting, Noon at the Extension Office

April 29 - 4-H Shooting Sports Sign up/Meeting 7pm

April 30 - Peace by Piece Group

May 2 - Deadline to sign up for 4-H Camp!!

Deadline for Sweet Potato Slip Orders. \$90/1,000 varieties include: Beauregard, White Bonita, Covington, Murasaki

May 6 - 4-H Sewing Group 4pm

4-H Shooting Sports Safety Meeting 7pm  
Farmers Market Meeting 5pm

May 7 - Peace by Piece Group

May 8 - West Liberty Homemakers 7pm

May 12 - Beekeepers Meeting 6:30

May 13 - Country Cousins Homemakers 7pm

4-H Shooting Sports Safety Meeting 7pm  
Farmers Market Meeting 5pm

May 14 - Morgan County District Board Meeting 5:30pm

May 16 - Homemakers Annual Meeting 5pm

May 20 - 4-H Sewing Group 4pm

4-H Camper Orientation (times to be announced)

May 21 - Peace by Piece Group

May 27 - Cooking Through the Calendar w/ARH 5pm

A healthy farm  
starts with a  
healthy farmer...

*Mental Health  
Matters!*



**ARH FARMER'S RESOURCE LINE**

**606.487.6160 • CALL NOW**

to connect with mental health resources, community  
and farming supports. We're here to help!

**If you are having a mental health crisis call 988. For medical emergencies dial 911.**



**MORGAN COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE**  
**P.O. BOX 35**  
**WEST LIBERTY, KY 41472-0035**

Return Service Requested

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STANDARD  
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PERMIT # 472

8



Cooperative Extension improves the lives of Kentuckians through practical, research-based educational programs.

## BENEFITS

- Paid vacation and sick leave
- Insurance
- Retirement 200% match
- Employee Education Program
- Professional development
- Career ladder advancement

[extension.ca.uky.edu/hiring](https://extension.ca.uky.edu/hiring)

# JOIN OUR TEAM!

MORGAN  
COUNTY  
4-H AGENT

APPLY AT LINK  
IN POST



TO APPLY GO TO THE  
FOLLOWING LINK:  
[HTTPS://UKJOBS.UKY.EDU/  
POSTINGS/579284](https://ukjobs.uky.edu/postings/579284)

Deadline to apply is  
May 4, 2025

Cooperative  
Extension Service  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Timely and Cooperative Extension  
4-H Youth Development

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