

JULY 2024 ISSUE

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWSLETTER

UK Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
University of Kentucky.

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2024 CENTRAL KENTUCKY HAY CONTEST

Is your hay the best?

Testing provides nutritional value of hay to assist in balancing rations, and can result in reduced feed cost, increased animal performance, and information to improve forage stands.

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**DEADLINE TO REGISTER:
OCTOBER 7, 2024**

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Agriculture and Natural Resources
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MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Corn, Soybean & Tobacco Field Day

UKREC, Princeton KY 42445

Wagons roll: 8:00am CT

Topics include:

Corn Disease Concerns For 2024

Familiar and New Soybean Diseases to Look Out for in 2024
Insect Update

Corn and Soybean Variety Trials

Weed Control in 2024 And Beyond
“Weather Alert”

Maximizing Corn Yields Following a Cover Crop
Soybean yield and economic response to irrigation
Corn and Soybean Outlook

The Fundamentals of Soil pH Management for Production Agriculture

Changes To Agr-1 Fertilizer Rate Recommendations for Kentucky Grain Crops

UKREC Dark Tobacco Infrastructure and Research Update

Tobacco Research Update from University of Tennessee

Sulfur Fertility in Tobacco



Registration: <http://tiny.cc/m9jlyz> Or scan the QR Code

Thanks to our lunch sponsors!



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Save the Date
Annual Farm
Field Day

Tuesday, September 24th, 2024

Resting Acres
Angus

Economic & Policy Update

E-newsletter Volume 24, Issue 5

Editors: Will Snell & Nicole Atherton



Department of Agricultural Economics
University of Kentucky

**MAY
2024**

ADM Requirements to Comply with New EU Regulation Impacting Kentucky Soybean Producers

Author(s): Jordan Shockley and Grant Gardner Published: May 24, 2024

Starting December 24, 2024, the European Union (EU) will require all imported soybeans to be deforestation-free. The policy aims to prevent deforestation and promote sustainable agriculture practices. Consequently, soybeans destined for the EU market must be traceable back to specific fields where they are grown. To comply with this requirement, Archer Daniels Midland (ADM), with help from the Farmers Business Network (FBN), has introduced a Deforestation-Free Soybean Program to ensure that soybeans exported to the EU meet their standards. However, this EU requirement will impact all elevators selling soybeans to Europe. Therefore, we expect additional verification platforms from other elevators across the U.S., not just ADM.

So, what does this mean for Kentucky soybean producers? Suppose you sell your soybeans to ADM Henderson, Livingston Point, Silver Grove, or ADM locations outside the state (e.g., Memphis). In that case, your location may require you to enroll in ADM's Deforestation-Free Soybean Program via the FBN website/app by June 1, 2024, and submit your field boundary data by July 15, 2024. This enrollment is free, and by submitting your field boundary data, FBN will use satellite imagery to verify that the soybeans were grown on land not deforested after December 31, 2020. What constitutes not deforested? A field where more than 1.24 acres of trees were forested. In conversations with ADM, Dr. Chad Lee discovered that if the total acreage of the fence rows removed surpasses 1.24 acres, the field will not be eligible for the ADM premium (see more of Dr. Chad Lee's notes from his conversation with ADM here). Early indications also suggest that some ADM locations will only accept deforestation-free soybeans, albeit at a premium. ADM is offering up to a \$0.15/bushel premium if farmers enrolled in the program and an additional \$0.05/bushel if enrolled by May 1, 2024, and field boundary data submitted by June 1, 2024. For more information on enrolling in the program, please visit ADM's resource website here and contact your local ADM elevator for requirements.

Suppose you are unaware of this requirement or do not want to provide ADM and FBN with the required data to enroll in this program. In that case, it is important to realize that selling to a different elevator could incur additional costs, especially if your typical ADM site is not accepting unenrolled soybeans. Understanding hauling costs and local basis when delivering to a different market is important. To identify a new market, please see the map of Kentucky Grain and Oilseed Markets found here. Selling to a different elevator could additionally impact fuel, labor, and other operating costs and have differing quality discounts. The Grain Hauling Decision Tool can aid in....

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determining the additional cost of delivering a load of soybeans to a new location. You can download the Excel tool [here](#) or find it on our Agricultural Economics website.

From a marketing perspective, it is currently unknown how premiums for non-deforested beans will affect long-run prices, but there are some things to be aware of when making marketing decisions in the short term. First, your marketing locations will change if you choose not to deliver to ADM due to data requirements or other reasons. As ADM is a large merchandiser, they offer popular marketing contracts such as basis and hedge-to-arrive. Contract options may be limited if you must market to a smaller elevator. Second, the premium for non-deforested beans may push the basis at surrounding elevators upward. As other elevators will need to compete with the premium to source local feedstock, they may need to account for the premium in their basis. Vice versa, even though ADM is offering a premium, they may account for it in their basis, causing a lower basis at ADM locations. Other elevators may not need to compete with the premium if this is the case.

Time will tell how the push for non-deforested beans affects local markets and grain marketing decisions. We have entered a new era in which premiums are being offered for practices. It is highly likely similar premiums will be used in the future for other sustainable agriculture efforts, such as carbon sequestration. These premiums offer the Kentucky producer opportunities; however, opportunities do not come without challenges. As we enter a new age where grains may become de-commoditized, producers must adapt quickly to changing market conditions.

Recommended Citation Format:

Shockley, J. and G. Gardner. "ADM Requirements to Comply with New EU Regulation Impacting Kentucky Soybean Producers." *Economic and Policy Update* (24):5, Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Kentucky, May 24, 2024.

July Tips & Tidbits

Calculating Winter Hay Needs

- Horse owners need to plan for the hay needs for the upcoming winter-feeding period.
- Mature and low-maintenance horses consume 1.5 to 2 percent of their body weight per day.
- Growing horses, nursing mares, and horses with heavy work or exercise will eat 2.5 to 3 percent of their body weight.

Registering Foals

Breed registries have specific regulations, so research the breed you are interested in and make sure you are able to meet all of the regulations.

You will need to know:

- Age to register a foal for cost savings
- Required information about artificial insemination or assisted reproductive practices
- Who is responsible to register the foal (mare owner or recorded lessee)
- Accurate color and markings

In addition:

- Be prepared to send the required photographs of correct views and of suitable quality.
- Sign all certificates and send with correct fees included.

Check with the registry if you are unsure of any of its regulations.

Farrier

- Find a reliable farrier in your area and arrange for them to work on your horses as needed.
- Most horses require hoof care every 6 to 8 weeks, either in the form of trimming or shoeing.
- Remember that regular foot care *to prevent* a problem is easier than trying to *fix* a problem.

Testing Hay

- After determining the amount of hay you need and locating a source, test the hay to determine the nutrients available (minimum testing to include: *dry matter, digestible energy, crude protein, acid detergent fiber, and neutral detergent fiber*).
- Take an average of 20 random core samples from a lot of hay to determine the average quality. Most extension offices have hay probes that are available for loan.
- Package correctly and send to either a certified lab or the Kentucky Department of Agriculture forage testing division (1-800-248-4628).

Consult with your county extension agent for agriculture on how to properly interpret the results.

See UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment publication *Interpreting Forage Quality Reports* (ID-101) for more information. <https://afs.ca.uky.edu/publication/interpreting-forage-quality-reports-id-101>



College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

A graphic announcement for the closure of the Bourbon County Extension Office on Independence Day. The background is dark blue with white stars and red, white, and blue confetti. A stylized American flag is visible in the top-left and bottom-right corners. The text is centered and reads: 'BOURBON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED Independence Day July 4th, 2024'. The words 'Independence Day' are in a large, white, cursive font, while the other text is in a white, sans-serif font.

BOURBON COUNTY
EXTENSION OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED
Independence Day
July 4th, 2024

Play the Short, Medium, and Long Game

Strategies to Maximize Returns

Kevin Laurent, Extension Specialist, Department of Animal and Food Sciences, University of Kentucky

The current state of the cattle market is providing unique opportunities for producers to capitalize in a variety of ways by employing a variety of short-, medium-, and long-term strategies to maximize returns.

What does “Play the Short Game” mean? Producers play the short game by maximizing pounds prior to marketing whether you market off the cow or after weaning, extra weight is extra dollars. So, how do we get extra weight? Implant, deworm, and fly control for nursing calves: Research has shown that implanting nursing calves can result in an additional 10-30 lbs. at weaning, deworming an added 10-40 lbs. and fly control an additional 10-15 lbs. We cannot logically expect all three practices to be completely additive in response, but what if we employed all three strategies and gained a conservative estimate of an additional 30 lbs. In today's market that extra 30 lbs. could be worth an additional \$80-100/head depending on the weight class of the calf. All three of these strategies can be done for under \$7.50/head. Not a bad return on the time and labor to work the calves in the midsummer.

What does “Play the Medium Game” mean? Producers play the medium game by employing strategies this breeding season to have a tighter calving distribution and older, heavier, and more uniform calves for the 2025 marketing season. Easily the best method to control the calving season and play the medium game is to use CIDR inserts on late calving cows. CIDRs are T-shaped plastic devices that are coated in the hormone progesterone. CIDRs are inserted in the vagina for 7 days. Removal of the insert results in a rapid fall of plasma progesterone levels, which results in the occurrence of estrus. CIDRs can be used to advance postpartum estrus in cows nursing calves. An effective strategy is to use CIDRs in late calving cows that are at least 14 days post calving. During the UK IRM Farm program, CIDRs were inserted in 276 mature cows that were 14-21 days after calving on 19 different farms. Approximately 80% of these late calving cows calved 36 days earlier in the subsequent calving season. At 2 lbs. per day this could be an additional 60 lbs. of weaning weight or an additional \$150-180 per calf for an investment of \$15-20. The added value of more uniform marketing groups and less singles are also a benefit of tighter calving.

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What does “Play the Long Game” mean? Producers play the long game by investing 2023 and 2024 profits into infrastructure improvements. Easily the low hanging fruit in the long game is Improving grazing management through stock water development. Improving forage and grazing management are long game type strategies that take several years to fully develop. One of the first steps to implementing controlled grazing strategies is providing water access for grazing cattle. Missouri research has shown that providing water within 800 feet of the grazing animal will result in more even grazing and more uniform nutrient distribution. Water development allows the farm to be properly divided for rotational grazing strategies during the growing season and strip grazing strategies during the winter months. Water development can be a significant investment but the long-term benefits to the grazing enterprise can position operations to extend the grazing season, better withstand droughts and survive the downturns in the markets. Several cost share type programs are available to producers to aid in stock water development. Producers should check with their local NRCS office for assistance with proper system designs and available programs. Another resource for forage and grazing management information is the UK Forage website [Home | Forage Extension Program \(uky.edu\)](https://www.ukforage.com/). As always contact your local County Extension ANR Agent for more resources and educational programs.

So, what kind of game do you like to play? Are you simply concerned with “the now” or do you like to build a program that will succeed both now and into the future?

UK Launches New "Weather Alert" Smartphone App

I'm excited to present a new smartphone app called "Weather Alert", developed in collaboration between the UK Ag Weather Center, UK Center for Computational Sciences, and Southeastern Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention (SCAHIP). The goals of this app are two-fold: to heighten awareness during extreme weather conditions and secondly, to empower Kentucky farming operations with valuable insights for management and production-related decisions.



Made possible through support from Smith-Lever/Land Grant Engagement funding, SCAHIP, and the UK Department of Biosystems & Ag Engineering, the initial phase of app development is now COMPLETE. This includes a user-friendly design for easily accessing current and forecast weather data, including a high-resolution radar interface. This app also seamlessly integrates the ability to deliver timely warning and watch alerts directly to your mobile device, all accessible through your phone's GPS location or other designated areas of interest. UK Launches New "Weather Alert" Smartphone App. The app can be accessed for each platform by scanning or clicking the QR codes below.



May 1 Hay Stocks Provide Early Perspective on Hay Supply for 2024

Dr. Kenny Burdine, University of Kentucky

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA-NASS) released their May 1 hay stock estimates as part of the May Crop Production report on Friday. At the national level, hay stocks were estimated to be up by more than 46% from 2023. To be fair, hay stocks on May 1, 2023, were as low as they had been since 2013. But a year-over-year increase of this magnitude is noteworthy and confirms that hay supply has continued to increase after a very challenging year in 2022.

USDA-NASS estimates hay stocks twice per year – May 1 and December 1. The December estimate can be loosely thought of as hay supply going into the winter. Since most hay is fed during the winter months, this supply is drawn down until grazing begins the following spring. The May estimate can be loosely thought of as hay supply at the start of the grazing season. While this is an oversimplification of the hay production and feeding system, it does provide a framework from which to consider hay stock levels.

The widespread drought of 2022 left hay supplies tight across most all of the US. Producers responded by harvesting more hay acres in 2023, resulting in a 6.3% increase in all hay production. Production of non-Alfalfa hay types, that tend to be fed to beef cows, was actually up by about 9%. This increase in hay production occurred as beef cow numbers were decreasing, which impacted total hay needs. Without question, the supply picture has improved over the last year and a half, and the current drought monitor is encouraging with respect to production potential this spring.

While hay supplies have grown at the national level, it is always interesting to look at the state-by-state numbers. I am showing May 1 hay stocks for the last two years in several states in the table below. As a general rule, hay stocks were significantly higher year-over-year in the Southern Plains. Oklahoma saw more than a 4-fold increase while Texas hay stocks were significantly higher as well. States like Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee saw May 1 hay stocks relatively flat from the low levels of last year. The area of the country that seemed to show the most significant decrease was the Upper Midwest and I included Minnesota and Wisconsin for that reason.

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I think it is important to look at hay stocks regionally because hay markets tend to be very localized. Since hay is an expensive feedstuff to transport, wide price differences can be seen across regions. While the table below looks at hay stocks at the state level, differences can be seen within states too. In some years, hay prices can be significantly different only a few counties away. While hay feeding may seem like it's a long way off, it is never too early to assess hay inventory and start thinking about hay needs for the upcoming year.

Table 1. May 1 Hay Stocks in Selected States and US

State	May 1, 2023 (1,000 tons)	May 1, 2024 (1,000 tons)	Change from 2023 (1,000 tons)
Arkansas	200	260	+60
Kentucky	630	610	-20
Minnesota	560	390	-170
Mississippi	110	110	---
Missouri	820	810	-10
Oklahoma	400	1,800	+1,400
Tennessee	400	410	+10
Texas	940	1,500	+560
Wisconsin	560	390	-170
United States	14,333	21,010	+6,677

Source: USDA-NASS May Crop Production Report

PLATE IT UP RECIPE

Try out this
recipe!



Fresh Corn with Jalapeño Peppers

2 cups water	2 to 4 fresh jalapeño peppers	½ cup diced red onion
1 cup jasmine rice	1 large tomato	2 tablespoons butter
2 teaspoons cumin	2 tablespoons chopped pimento peppers	½ teaspoon salt
6 ears fresh corn		Pinch of black pepper

Bring water to a **boil** in a medium saucepan. **Stir** in rice and cumin, **cover** and **reduce** heat to low. Do not remove lid while rice is cooking. **Simmer** 12 minutes then **str. Cover**, **turn off** heat and let rice **set** an additional 10 minutes or until tender and all the water is absorbed. **Wash** all fresh ingredients. **Cut** corn kernels off cob. **Dice** jalapeño peppers and tomato. You may want to wear gloves while dicing the hot peppers. **Combine** corn, jalapeños, tomato, pimento peppers, onion, and butter

in a microwave-safe bowl. **Cover** and **cook** in microwave oven on high until heated through, about 4 to 5 minutes. **Stir** every minute. **Add** salt and black pepper. **Combine** corn mixture and cooked rice. **Fluff** mixture with a fork.

Yield: 6, ¾-cup servings

Nutritional Analysis:
250 calories, 6 g fat, 3 g saturated fat, 10 mg cholesterol, 120 mg sodium, 47 g carbohydrate, 9 g sugar, 0 g added sugar, 6 g protein.

Kentucky Sweet Corn

SEASON: July through August.

NUTRITION FACTS: Corn is low in fat and is a good source of fiber and B vitamins. A half-cup serving of corn contains 90 calories.

SELECTION: Look for ears with green shucks, moist stems, and silk that is free of decay. Kernels should be small, tender, plump, and milky when pierced. They should fill up all the spaces in the rows.

STORAGE: Keep unshucked, fresh corn in the refrigerator until ready to use. Wrap ears in damp paper towels and place in a plastic bag for four to six days.

PREPARATION: To microwave: Place ears of corn, still in the husk, in a single layer, in the microwave. Cook on high for 2 minutes for one ear, adding 1 minute per additional ear. Turn the ears after 1 minute. Let corn sit for several minutes before removing the shucks and silks.

To boil: Remove shucks and silks. Trim stem ends. Carefully place ears in a large pot of boiling water. Cook 2 to 4 minutes or until kernels are tender.

To grill: Turn back the shucks and remove silks. Sprinkle each ear with 2 tablespoons of water and nonfat seasonings such as salt, pepper, or herbs. Replace shucks and tie them shut with a string that has been soaked in water. Place ears on a hot grill for 20 minutes to 30 minutes, turning often.

KENTUCKY SWEET CORN
Kentucky Proud Project
County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences
University of Kentucky, Dietetics and Human Nutrition students
June 2019

Source: www.fruitsandvegsmatter.gov

Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers market, or roadside stand.

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