

## Muhlenberg County Agriculture & Natural Resources Newsletter

*Note: All meetings will be held at the Muhlenberg County Cooperative Extension Service unless noted otherwise.*

**All educational meetings are open to the public. Membership to a specific commodity association is not required to attend.**

**I will be out of the office March 24-31, April 18, April 25 and April 28-May 2.**

**Save the Date: Saturday, April 5, 2025 at 7:00 PM, our own Jacob Abbott from Abbott Acres will appear on the KET show Kentucky Living. Jacob operates a greenhouse business in the southeast end of the county and he will be talking about coming back to the farm as a young farmer.**

Beef Quality Care and Assurance (BQCA) meeting will be Monday, April 7, 2025. The meeting will begin at 2:00 PM and will last approximately two hours. There is no fee. Please contact the Extension Service by Thursday, April 3 if you plan to attend. **This will be a CAIP certified educational meeting.**

**Beef Production/Cattlemen's Association business meeting** will be Monday, April 7, 2025 at 6 PM. Dr. Michelle Arnold, Extension Veterinarian will be the guest speaker. The topic will be an update on electronic identification of cattle. Beans and cornbread will be the meal provided by the Cattlemen's Association but members are asked to bring soft drinks, bottled water, and a dessert. **This will be a CAIP certified educational meeting.**

**Farmers Market** meeting will be Monday, April 14, 2025 at 6:00 PM. The meeting will begin with a finger food potluck meal.

**Paradise Beekeepers Association** meeting will be Monday, April 21, 2025. The meeting begins at 6:00 PM with a potluck finger food meal. The guest speaker will be Dr. Amanda Skidmore, State Apiarist. **This will be a CAIP certified educational meeting.**

I have been receiving calls regarding the choice between ARC versus PLC for 2025. It appears that ARC will be the better option for 2025. Farmers and landowners have until April 15 to sign up.

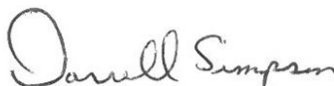
Congress passed the American Relief Act of 2025 which (among other items) authorized \$10 billion of economic assistance to U.S. farmers due to depressed crop prices and slumping farm income. USDA rolled out the **Emergency Commodity Assistance Program (ECAP)** to fulfil this legislative action.

Payment rates are \$42.91/acre for corn, \$30.69/acre for wheat and \$29.76/acre for soybeans. Other crops are eligible for payments. ECAP payments will be based upon 2024 eligible/reported planted acres times the payment rate. Initial payments will be paid upon 85 percent of eligible acres to ensure total national program payments do not exceed available funding. If additional funds remain FSA may eventually issue a second payment.

Pre-filled ECAP applications will be mailed to all eligible producers. After verifying and completing Form FSA-63 ECAP producers should submit their application to their local FSA county office either in-person, electronically, via fax, or online. Applications must be submitted by August 15, 2025. FSA indicates that producers do not have to wait for their pre-filled ECAP application to apply. They can simply apply using a login.gov account or contact their local FSA office to request an application. Full details, including enrollment information and payment details can be found online at <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/ecap>.

**A full list of all of our upcoming events can be found on our website ([muhlenberg.ca.uky.edu](http://muhlenberg.ca.uky.edu)) under the Upcoming Events tab.**

For more information on topics in this newsletter contact Darrell Simpson, Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources Education at 270-338-3124 or email me at [roger.simpson@uky.edu](mailto:roger.simpson@uky.edu).



Darrell Simpson  
County Extension Agent  
Agriculture & Natural Resources Education

3690 State Route 1380 | Central City, KY 42330-5512 | P: 270-338-3124 | F: 270-338-3138 | [muhlenberg.ca.uky.edu](http://muhlenberg.ca.uky.edu)

Cooperative  
Extension Service

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

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, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.

Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.