



## The Baker Bulletin

A  
Baker County  
Extension  
Service Monthly  
Newsletter

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Dear Extension Friends,

Spring has arrived in Northeast Florida and now is the time for managing your lawn, garden, forage area or hay field. Homeowners and hobbyists will enjoy our Annual Spring Garden Festival to be held on Saturday, April 18th. Alicia and our Master Gardeners will be on hand with plant sales and answers to your questions. Forage area and hay field owners should take a look at page 7 for weed control options. 4-Hers should remember that Ms. Shaina will be out of the office from the end of April to early May. As always, if we can help you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Davis  
County Extension Director / Ag Agent  
Baker County Extension Service

**Spring  
Garden Festival**  
Saturday, April 18th  
9 am — 2pm

### Contact Information—Baker County Extension Service

1025 W. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny, FL 32063

Phone: (904) 259-3520, FAX: (904) 259-9034

Email: baker@ifas.ufl.edu Hours: M—F 8:30am to 5:00pm (Closed Noon to 1:00pm for Lunch)

**Michael Davis, Ph.D.**  
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Horticulture Agent

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4-H Agent



# Highlights in Horticulture

By:  
Alicia Lamborn,  
Horticulture Agent

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## April Gardening Calendar

### Lawns:

- Apply fertilizer no sooner than mid-April after new growth has started. Choose a fertilizer (not a "weed and feed") with little or no phosphorus unless a soil test indicates the need for it. A fertilizer with controlled-release nitrogen yields longer-lasting results. See: [http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/documents/FertilizingYourNFLawn\\_001.pdf](http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/documents/FertilizingYourNFLawn_001.pdf)
- Concerned about insects and diseases? Rule out cultural problems that mimic pest damage before applying a pesticide. See: <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/documents/DiagnosingInsectandDiseaseProblemsinFloridaTurfgrass.pdf>

### Ornamental Landscapes:

- **Pests:** Monitor landscape plants weekly for aphids, whiteflies and scale that attack new tender growth. Black sooty mold often results from severe infestations but can be avoided if the insects that cause it are found and managed early in the season. See: <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/documents/BlackSootyMoldonLandscapePlants.pdf>
- **Mulch:** A 3" layer of mulch will minimize weeds and conserve moisture during dry weather. Organic mulches add nutrients to the soil.
- **Perennials:** Plant in masses for a bold display of color. Evergreen shrubs provide a beautiful backdrop for masses of small perennials, whereas large-growing perennials can be used as specimen plants. See: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/mg035>

### Edible Gardens:

- **Vegetables:** April is a great month for planting vegetables. See: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh021>
- **Herbs:** Herbs to plant in spring include basil, oregano, sage, Mexican tarragon, and rosemary. See: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh020>
- **Fruits:** Blueberries and grapes get fertilizer this month. See: [http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/documents/MonthlyCalendar\\_FruitsandNuts\\_004.pdf](http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/documents/MonthlyCalendar_FruitsandNuts_004.pdf)

## Plant of the Month: Coral Honeysuckle

Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) is an evergreen vine with dark green leaves and striking red tubular flowers that appear from spring through summer. This plant is also sometimes called Trumpet Honeysuckle which describes its trumpet-shaped



flowers. While the flowers are not fragrant, they are particularly attractive to hummingbirds.

The height and spread depends on the supporting structure, but this vine will quickly cover an arbor or trellis and provide good, thick coverage in full sun. Although a vigorous twining vine, Coral Honeysuckle is a Florida native that does not spread out of control as easily as Japanese honeysuckle (an invasive species that is not recommended for Florida).

If planting on a fence or trellis to create a screen, plants should be spaced 3 to 5 feet apart. Like other vines, it will require some training to direct growth. Foliage that accumulates at the top of the supporting structure can be cut back yearly to encourage growth close to the ground. However, vines root easily and may self layer where they touch the ground.

Coral Honeysuckle is moderately drought tolerant and tolerates most soil types except dry sands. It also prefers sunny locations and flowers poorly in shade.

Several cultivars are available: 'Sulphurea' has bright yellow flowers; 'Superba' has bright scarlet flowers and broadly oval leaves; and 'Magnifica' has large, bright red blooms and is late-flowering.

No insects or diseases are of major concern and occasional pests rarely require chemical controls.

# UF/IFAS EXTENSION NORTHEAST FLORIDA LIVESTOCK AGENTS GROUP

Invite You to the

# MASTER HERDSMAN SERIES



**6:00 – 8:00 PM**

**Suwannee Valley Agricultural Extension Center Farm**

8202 CR 417, Live Oak, FL 32060

**APRIL 13**

Goats

**APRIL 20**

Poultry

**APRIL 27**

Equine

**MAY 4**

Economics  
and Forage  
Production

**MAY 11**

Cattle,  
Graduation and  
Potluck Dinner

**REGISTRATION: \$50 FOR ENTIRE SERIES, \$20 PER CLASS, LATE REGISTRATION \$30**











Participants must attend at least 4 workshops to become a Master Herdsman.

Registration through Eventbrite at <http://tinyurl.com/p5v5y3g>

**REGISTER 3 DAYS IN ADVANCE**

Find and contact your local UF/IFAS Extension  
County Agent for more information at  
<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/map/index.shtml>.

# April 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Office Closed for Good Friday	4
5	6	7 	8	9 	10	11
12	13 	14 	15	16	17	18 
19	20 	21 	22	23 	24	25
26	27 	28 	29	30 Office Closed	MAY 1 	

Upcoming Programs are marked with a Program Area Symbol. Please match these symbols with the list on the following page for more information about the program.



4-H



Horticulture



Agriculture

# Upcoming Programs & Events

Programs will be held at the Baker County Extension Office (Agricultural Center) unless otherwise noted.

- April 13 **Master Herdsman Series**—6:00pm to 8:00pm, Suwannee Valley Agricultural Center, 8202 CR 417, Live Oak, FL 32060. The UF/IFAS Extension Northeast Livestock Agents Group is presenting a five (5) week course for the Master Herdsman Series. Animal species covered include Goats, Poultry, Equine, and Cattle with an additional session on Economics and Forage Production. Registration is \$50 for the entire series or \$20 per single session. All registrations must be made online at <http://tinyurl.com/p5v5y3g>. Additional information can be found at [http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/documents/15\\_NFLAG\\_Master\\_Herdsman\\_Flyer.pdf](http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/documents/15_NFLAG_Master_Herdsman_Flyer.pdf) or by contacting the Baker County Extension Office.
- April 18 **Spring Garden Festival**—9:00am to 2:00pm, Baker County Extension Office, Macclenny, FL. For vendor information, please contact our office at 904-259-3520.
- May 1 **Florida-Friendly Landscaping: Digging Deeper into Your Lawn**, 2:00pm to 4:00pm, Baker County Extension Office, Macclenny, FL. This event includes a class on basic lawn care, a personalized yard visit to discuss lawn problems (Baker County residents only), a soil test with consultation, and a follow up evaluation. This class is limited to 15 people; \$10 registration fee reserves your seat. Call 904-259-3520 for more information.
- May 1 Deadline for Applications for **Master Gardener Volunteer Training Course**. Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9am to 1pm, June 2nd to July 16th at the Baker County Extension Office, Macclenny, FL. Florida Master Gardeners are professionally trained volunteers who share unbiased, research-based gardening information with the community. The purpose of this course is to train a core of horticultural volunteers for UF/IFAS Extension to assist the county agent in delivering information to residents on how to design, plant, and care for their plants and landscapes in an Florida-Friendly way. If you enjoy volunteering and sharing knowledge with others, applications for this program are being accepted through **May 1st**. Applications are available online at: [http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/master\\_gardener.html](http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/master_gardener.html)
- May 16 **4-H Association Benefit Auction & Alumni Event** — Alumni event will begin at 5:00pm; auction begins at 6:00pm. If you would like to make a donation to the auction, please contact Shaina Bennett at 259-3520.



## 4-H Club Meetings & Events:

**All County 4-H Club** — 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month, 6pm in the 4-H classroom

**Livestock Club** — Tuesday, April 28 at 6pm, in auditorium

**Cloverleaf Cloggers** — Tuesdays at 7pm— Fabulous Footworks.

### Important Dates: April 2015

04— State Horse Judging Contest

April 20-May 11— Ms. Shaina will NOT be in the office. Please email or leave messages, but do not expect an answer until May 11th at the earliest.



# Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:

*Shaina Bennett,  
4-H Agent*

## County Events Success!

This year's County Events was awesome!! We had 12 youth participate and showcase their amazing talents! Youth demonstrated their public speaking skills, their dancing talents, and photography abilities! We had an excellent turn out and a very enjoyable morning! Next year we hope to see everyone participate!

L to R: Keelie Turk, Katilyn Small, Emely Bruckner, and Abigail North celebrating their awesome clogging performance to Elvira.



Keelie Turk making a gum paste rose!



Nathaniel Matthews showing off his Lego creation!



All of our County Events participants with their certificates and ribbons.

Back row L to R: Kenu Turk, Matthew North, Stephanie Rawlins, Abigail North, Katilyn Small. Front row L to R: Kash Addy, Nathaniel Matthews, Keelie Turk, Emely Bruckner, Alissa Rawlins.

**Congratulations to all our participants!**

## Events

### April

03– Good Friday Office CLOSED  
04– State Horse Judging Contest  
18– Spring Garden Festival, Arboretum  
20-May 11– Ms. Shaina will NOT be in the office. Please email or leave messages, but do not expect an answer until May 11th at the earliest.

### May

09– District Events, Kanapaha Middle School, Gainesville, Reg. 8am, ON YOUR OWN  
11– Auction items are DUE  
16– 4-H Association Benefit Auction  
Alumni Event will begin at 5:00pm  
Auction will begin at 6:00pm

### June

08– Camp Cherry Lake Orientation, 6pm  
10-12 All About Animals Camp, ages 5-7  
15-27 Wild About Weather Camp, ages 8+  
22-26 Camp Cherry Lake, Madison, FL

### Birthdays for April

Wishing all of you a very **Happy Birthday!**

09– Cameron Kaiser 13– Dakota Wilburn  
18– Hannah Sluski 20– Rex (Cooper) Rungruang  
21– Hamp Craft 22– Madison Lagle  
24– Kaleb Lewis



# 4-H Camp Cherry Lake 2015

Baker, Bradford, Hamilton, Madison, and Union Counties  
June 22-26, 2015

Ages 8+ (as of 09/01/2014)

Early Bird registration due May 22: Member \$200; Non-Member \$215

Regular registration after May 22: Member \$210; Non-Member \$225

Camp Orientation June 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm, Ag Center Auditorium

Deadline to register is June 8<sup>th</sup>

Payment plans available upon request.

Registration is at <https://florida.4honline.com>

## Spring Weeds in Northeast Florida

Spring has definitely arrived in Northeast Florida; and an increase in temperature will cause an increase in weeds in your hay or forage area. Listed below are four of the most common Spring weeds seen in our area and tips for control. Always remember that if you are using herbicides for weed control to follow the directions on the label. If you have questions about a particular herbicide, please contact our office.

### Tropical Soda Apple



Tropical Soda Apple (TSA) is a rapidly spreading weed that can take over a pasture in as little as a year. Plants are 2-3 feet tall at maturity with broad, pointed-lobed leaves. Fruit from TSA are round and yellow as they mature. GrazonNext HL is effective against emerged plants and will provide some pre-emergent control for seedlings up to 6 months after application. **THERE ARE HAYING AND GRAZING RESTRICTIONS FOR THIS HERBICIDE. MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW THE LABEL.**



Image: John D. Byrd, Mississippi State University, Bugwood.org

### Prickly Pear Cactus



Prickly pear is a common name for several species of cactus. The problem is not wide-spread, but emergence of this plant can devastate a pasture if it is allowed to establish. **MOWING IS INEFFECTIVE AS PADS THAT ARE REMOVED FROM THE PARENT PLANT CAN ESTABLISH ROOTS AND FORM NEW COLONIES.** Control of this plant is achieved with a mixture of Remedy Ultra (20%) and basal oil (80%). This mixture is applied as a spot treatment directly to the pads. Note that grass in the area will show some burn, but can recover. Control is typically slow and can take up to one year.



### Dogfennel



Dogfennel is an aggressive native plant that can be a problem in un-improved or overgrazed pastures. The leaves of the plant contain small amounts of the toxin tremitol, which can cause dehydration in livestock. Seeds typically sprout and grow when soil temperatures reach 65°F. Control of dogfennel can be achieved by two herbicides: 1) Weedmaster—apply when plants reach 12-18 inches in height; this herbicide is most effective when plants are transitioning from winter dormancy, 2) Pasturegard HL—use this herbicide if plants have reached heights of 40 inches or more.



Image: John D. Byrd, Mississippi State University, Bugwood.org

Image: John D. Byrd, Mississippi State University, Bugwood.org

### Florida Pusley



Florida Pusley plants typically grow creeping along the ground and have hairy stems that can grow up to 30 inches in length. Leaves typically have a rough upper and lower surface. The plant has small, white flowers that cluster at the ends of the stems. Control of this weed can be achieved using GrazonNext HL by itself or in combination with Pasturegard HL.



Image: Karan A. Rawlins, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org

Image: Richard Old, XID Services, Inc., Bugwood.org

**Baker County Extension Service**  
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Extension programs are open to all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, handicap, or national origin. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in any activity, should contact the Baker County Cooperative Extension Service at 1025 West Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063 or telephone (904) 259-3520 no later than five (5) days prior to the event. Hearing impaired persons can access the foregoing telephone by contacting the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

## NOTICE

### **SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available in Florida due to Drought**

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has announced that federal **Economic Injury Disaster Loans** are available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and private nonprofit organizations located in Baker County, Florida as a result of drought and excessively dry weather from June 1 through December 31, 2014.

Under this declaration, the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program is available to eligible farm-related and nonfarm-related entities that suffered financial losses as a direct result of the disaster described above. With the exception of aquaculture enterprises, SBA cannot provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers or ranchers. Nurseries are eligible to apply for economic injury disaster loans for losses caused by drought conditions.

The loan amount can be up to \$2 million with interest rates of 2.625 percent for private nonprofit organizations and 4 percent for small businesses, with terms up to 30 years. The SBA determines eligibility based on the size of the applicant, type of activity and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition. These working capital loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills that could have been paid had the disaster not occurred. The loans are not intended to replace lost sales or profits.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Completed loan applications must be returned to SBA no later than **Oct. 19, 2015**. The full text of the announcement can be found at <https://www.sba.gov/offices/disaster/dfoce/resources/1474215>.



The poster features a vibrant spring garden scene. At the top, a string of pink heart-shaped flowers hangs across the sky, with two blue birds flying. The background shows rolling green hills and a winding path. On the left, a vertical vine with pink roses and green leaves runs down the side. At the bottom, there are illustrations of strawberries, a monarch butterfly, a green frog, and a cluster of red tulips and yellow daffodils. The central text is set against a white background with a yellow sun behind the word 'Spring'.

# Spring Garden Festival

**Saturday, April 18th 2015**

**9 am — 2 pm**

**Baker County Extension Office (Ag Center)  
1025 W. Macclenny Ave. in Macclenny**

**Plants For Sale:**

Bring your wagon and load up on plants! Local vendors will be selling a variety of shrubs, trees, annuals, perennials, bulbs, houseplants, succulents, fruits, vegetables, and hanging baskets!

**Gardening Exhibits:**

Visit the information booths and speak with experts on lawn care, butterfly gardening, fire-wise landscaping, plus talk with volunteers about the Master Gardener Program in Baker County.

**Arboretum & Gardens:**

Take a walk through our garden of trees and newly expanded butterfly garden! Kids can compete in a scavenger hunt for a chance to win a \$50 voucher good towards a 4-H day camp this summer.

For more information call 904-259-3520

Sponsored by UF/IFAS  
Extension Baker County

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UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

The Foundation for  
The Gator Nation  
An Equal Opportunity  
Institution

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# *Baker County 4-H Benefit Auction*



*Baker County Agricultural Center*

*Saturday, May 16, 2015*

*Dinner & Silent Auction at 6:00pm*

*Live Auction begins at 6:30pm*



## *Live & Silent Auction*

Tools    Plants    Gift Cards    Gift Baskets

Arts & Crafts    and much more!

Items are donated from local businesses and individuals.

### **\$5 Dinner**

Attention 4-H Alumni! Come at 5:00pm and gather with former 4-H members to reminisce over photos, trophies, and stories!

For more information please call: 904-259-3520

