



The Baker Bulletin

A
Baker County
Extension
Service Monthly
Newsletter

Baker County Extension Service

1025 W. Macclenny Ave.
Macclenny, FL 32063

Phone: (904) 259-3520

Email: baker@ifas.ufl.edu

Hours: M—F 8:30am to 5:00pm
(Closed Noon to 1:00pm for Lunch)

County Agents

Alicia Lamborn
Horticulture Agent

Shaina Spann
4-H Youth Development Agent

Alicia Halbritter
Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent

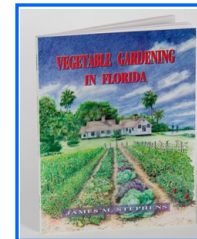
Dear Extension Friends,

Have you checked out all the virtual learning opportunities available online? To see what's being offered, visit: <https://ifas.catalog.instructure.com/> and see page 3 for kid's summer camps. Until we can offer in-person classes again, we'll be here to provide you with the information and assistance you seek. If needed, we can coordinate a no-contact drop off or pick up option for information, soil test kits, diagnostic samples, and more. Just let us know how we can help.

Sincerely,

Alicia

Alicia Lamborn, County Director
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County



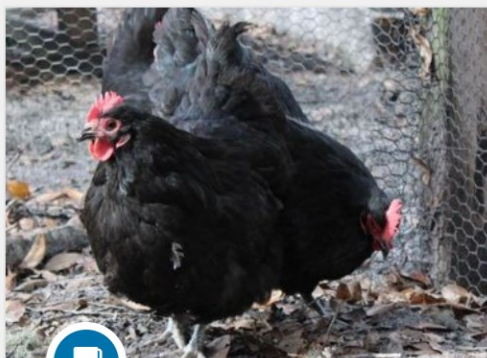
Congratulations to
Tina McFarlin —
our horticulture
class survey
winner this spring!

<http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu>

<http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/bakerco>

[Baker County Garden Spot](#)
[Baker County 4-H](#)

Search "Baker County 4-H" in your app store

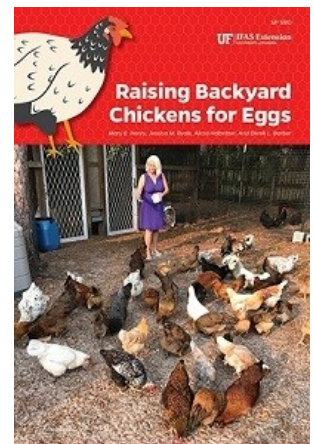


Backyard Poultry Basics

Online course available at:
<https://ifas.catalog.instructure.com/>

The **Backyard Poultry Basics** course offers a beginners guide to raising chickens for eggs and covers topics such as breed selection, housing, egg care, and much more. Eight guided modules with a range of course content for you to complete at your own pace. Certificate of completion offered after passing the final quiz. Certificate can be used to fulfill the educational requirement for many cities Backyard Hen Permit.

And from the UF/IFAS Bookstore, **Raising Backyard Chickens for Eggs** is a concise introduction to raising your own backyard flocks - including information on local ordinances, building coops, feeding your chickens, protecting your flock from predators, selecting breeds, gathering eggs, keeping your birds healthy and more. Whether you want to start a business, bring eggs to the breakfast table or welcome new pets into your family, this book is the perfect starting place. Available for purchase at:
<http://ifasbooks.ifas.ufl.edu/p-1545-raising-backyard-chickens-for-eggs.aspx>



Highlights in Horticulture

By:
Alicia Lamborn,
Horticulture Agent



July Gardening Tips

Flowers

- Although drought tolerant, our heat loving annuals and perennials may still benefit from irrigation during weeks with no rainfall.
- Look for plants like angelonia, coleus, pentas, salvias, torenia, and ornamental pepper if you have spots in the flower bed to fill. Even butterfly lily and gladiolus bulbs can be planted during summer.

Trees & Shrubs

- Prepare your trees for hurricane season by checking for damaged or weak branches. If pruning is needed, avoid over-pruning shade trees and palms, which makes them more susceptible to wind damage during a storm. For more info, see: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_tree_pruning
- Insect pests like aphids, scales, and mealybugs seem to be prevalent this year. When noticed early, infestations can easily be controlled using insecticidal soaps or horticultural oils, which are generally less toxic to beneficial insects that may be present.

Lawns

- Be on the look out for Doveweed, an aggressive summer lawn weed. It resembles St. Augustine grass, which sometimes allows it to go unnoticed and take over the yard. Because it prefers wet areas, it can be especially troublesome for poorly drained and overwatered lawns. Management involves pre-emergent herbicides applied in early spring, followed by post-emergent herbicide spray treatments which vary based on the type of lawn. Please contact our office for treatment recommendations.

Vegetables & Herbs

- Cilantro is a tasty alternative to cilantro that can be grown during the heat of summer. While the two are related, culantro has long, tough green leaves that produce a stronger flavor. Plant seeds in a shady area for best results. Read more here: <https://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/plants/edibles/vegetables/culantro.html>
- Get your Halloween pumpkin seeds started early this month. For larger fruit, leave only 1-2 per vine. Recommended varieties include: Big Max, Connecticut Field, Prizewinner, Jack Be Little, and Jack O Lantern.

Fruits & Nuts

- After harvesting blueberries, plants can be topped to control height and encourage branching. Depending on size, canopy height can be reduced by several inches up to a foot or more. This prevents plants from becoming too tall and will stimulate new growth that will become next year's fruiting wood.
- Fig trees can also be pruned after fruit harvest to eliminate dead, diseased, or rubbing branches, and to remove long, slender "water sprouts". Larger plants can be trimmed back to maintain a bushy shape which makes reaching fruit easier.

Mahonias: Useful shrubs for shade gardens

Mahonia is a large genus of evergreen shrubs, although only a handful of species are well suited to Florida landscapes. But if you're looking for a drought tolerant, shade-tolerant shrub then you'll want to consider a Mahonia. These plants provide year-round textural interest, yellow flowers during winter when most of the landscape is devoid of color, and bright blue-purple fruits in spring.

'Soft Caress' Mahonia (*M. eurybracteata*)

The Soft Caress cultivar seems to be everyone's new favorite Mahonia. The narrow, thread-like leaflets lack sharp spines like other Mahonia species, yet still offer great texture in the garden. Growing 3 feet tall and wide, this plant produces bright yellow flowers that are attractive to bees.



Fortune's Mahonia (*M. fortunei*)

Suitable for north and central Florida, this species reaches 3-5 feet tall and wide. Although it has a fern-like appearance, the narrow, green leaflets are a bit spiny.

Leatherleaf Mahonia (*M. bealei*)

Growing best in north Florida, this species reaches 5-10 feet tall and 3-4 feet wide. Large, pointed green leaves turn a dark, blue-green color in full shade. Its powder blue, grape-like berry clusters provide food for birds. Being a very stiff, prickly bush, careful placement in the landscape is recommended. This shrub is not one you want to brush up against. Another consideration is that while not currently considered invasive in Florida, it has reportedly caused problems in other southern states.

Oregon grapeholly (*M. aquifolium*)

This Oregon native is suited to north Florida (zone 8). With holly-like leaves, distinct yellow flowers, and blue fruits, this plant has much to offer in the landscape.

Lucky Clover Chronicle

By: *Shaina Spann, 4-H Agent*



NEW LIVESTOCK WEBPAGE

Since we have not been able to have in-person meetings. We have been diligently working on a webpage with information and resources. Our Agriculture Agent, Alicia Halbritter, and myself have been putting together ALL kinds of educational materials for livestock animal participants all in one place!

Some sections are already live, we will be adding new materials every couple weeks. So be sure to check back! The page has content for rabbits, poultry, goats, cattle, pigs, horses, curricula, how-to's, and forms that you would need. Each animal specie will have pages with information and activities on breeds, nutrition, health, exhibiting, and more. To check it out here's the link: <https://sites.google.com/ufl.edu/baker-county-4h-livestock-club/home>.



[Rabbits](#)



[Poultry](#)



[Goats](#)



[Cattle](#)



[Pigs](#)



[Horses](#)



[Forms & Curriculum](#)

Points Updates

In an effort to relieve additional stress with everything that has been going on, the Livestock Leadership Team met and decided that all meeting points for the 2019-2020 4-H year will be forgiven. In addition, new families only need 2 points. Return families need 4 points (2 of which can come from the previous fair) and turn in the final project report due on September 1st. I want to commend all of the members that have well exceeded these points, you have done great jobs at making it work!!

Virtual Camps

4-H always has amazing summer offerings. This year is no different! There are a total of 46 different virtual camp offerings for all youth, not just 4-H members, ages 5+ (as of 09/01/2019). From entomology to robotics, from sewing to adulting, there is a camp for every kid! Most camps are FREE for everyone. Are you missing camp songs and playing camp games with your favorite camp friends this summer? Worry no more! We are very excited that 4-H Adventures is offering County Camp Night for our Cluster (Baker, Columbia, Hamilton, Suwannee, Union) will be on July 16th at 6:30PM! If we were at camp, this would have been during our talent showcase at camp!

List of offerings here: <http://florida4h.org/programsandevents/4-h-adventures/>
Register here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdgDsgHmp5voCWLfy45AMJSYEag50cgk8ZlLeK7J69406hVTw/viewform>

MISSING OUR WEEK OF CAMP?
Register now to join us on July 16th for a Virtual Night at Camp!
Registration closes July 8th!

Barnyard Bulletin

By:
Alicia Halbritter,
Agriculture Agent



Mineral Supplementation of Livestock

Small Ruminants

The most important are salt, calcium, and phosphorus. The ratio of calcium to phosphorus should be kept around 2:1 to prevent urinary calculi. A free choice salt-vitamin-mineral premix should be made available to small ruminants at all times, unless a premix has been incorporated into the grain ration or TMR (total mixed ration).

Goats require higher levels of copper in minerals. Sheep on the other hand are susceptible to toxic levels of copper. Be aware of this when selecting minerals for small ruminants.



Cattle

Mineral mixes for cattle should always include: Calcium, Phosphorus, Magnesium, Potassium, and Sulfur. Trace minerals are important and are best to be included in a mineral mix. Trace minerals include Copper, Zinc and Manganese, Selenium, and Cobalt. Visit here to learn specific mineral requirements of cattle:

<http://bit.ly/CowMineral>

Horses

Mineral needs for horses are dependent on the age and class of the horse (working, gestating, pasture pet, etc.). Excessive amounts of minerals can cause toxicities, care should be taken when supplements are combined.

Generally horses that are fed a concentrate feed are receiving proper levels of vitamins and minerals. Supplementation should be used for horses who are not fed a concentrate, this can be in the form of a ration balancer or top dressing a mineral mix on a small amount of feed.



For more information, please feel free to contact me at:

Email: aliciah1221@ufl.edu

Phone: 904-259-3520