



The Baker Bulletin

A
Baker County
Extension
Service Monthly
Newsletter

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Dear Extension Friends,

Happy Summer everyone! Thank you for being part of our Extension family. We have good information for you in this edition of our newsletter, including: information on the Baker County Arboretum, nutrition, financial management, common summer weeds found in pastures, tips for tomato problems, upcoming programs and information on 4-H and youth development. As always, if you need assistance, give us a call or stop by our office.

Sincerely,

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



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.

Agriculture Agent



Alicia Lamborn

Horticulture Agent



Melanie Thomas

Family & Consumer Sciences Agent



Shaina Bennett

4-H Agent



Highlights in Horticulture

By:

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Alicia Lamborn,
Horticulture Agent

Arboretum Visitor Information

Everyone is invited to visit the arboretum!

No matter what the season, there is something to see in the arboretum—trees with interesting bark & buds, beautiful flowers and fruit, and colorful leaves in fall. We even have seasonal wildflowers, in addition to a variety of wildlife that come for a visit too!



Mockernut Hickory

All visitors will be provided with materials for a self-guided tour. For larger groups, tour guides may be requested in advance to teach you about the different tree species, landscape uses, and tree identification techniques.

Access may be permitted during regular business hours only, and visitors must sign in at the front office. Calling ahead is recommended to ensure availability. Schedule your visit today by calling (904) 259-3520.

Visitors completing our survey and providing feedback after their visit will be entered to win a \$10 voucher for plants at our 2013 Spring Garden Festival OR Yard Visit by a Master Gardener for landscaping advice (Baker County residents only).

Not able to visit the arboretum in person? Visit our website! <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu> Just click on **Baker County Arboretum** in the left hand column to read more about the arboretum, see a site plan, and find information and photos for each tree species.



Arboretum Photo Contest



Come visit the arboretum and bring your camera to enter our new photo contest!

- All contest photos must have been taken in the Baker County Arboretum. Photo content may include trees, individual tree features (leaves, flowers, bark, fruit, etc), shrubs, wildflowers, and/or wildlife found in the arboretum (including people).
- Photos may be printed or submitted electronically to the Baker County Extension Office (email: baker@ifas.ufl.edu) and all entries should include a title, the photographer's name and contact information. For youth entries, please include the child's age.
- Entries will be judged based on photo quality (clarity) and creativity.
- A winner will be chosen each month (adult and youth entries will be judged separately). Each monthly winner will then compete for the top prize...

Adults: \$10 plant voucher (good at our 2013 Spring Garden Fest) OR Yard Visit by a Master Gardener for landscaping advice (Baker County residents only)

Youth: \$10 voucher (good towards a 4-H Summer Day Camp OR plants at our 2013 Spring Garden Fest)

- The winners' names and photos will be posted to the Baker County Extension website.
- For more information or to view the winning photos, please visit our website at <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu>

Living Well in Baker County

By:

*Melanie Thomas,
FCS Agent*

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Would you like to develop expertise in the area of food and nutrition and be able to share that expertise with others?



**Master Food
and Nutrition
VOLUNTEER**

A Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer program is being offered by the Cooperative Extension Service, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. The program is designed to provide food and nutrition training for selected individuals in Florida.

The Baker County Extension Office is accepting applications for volunteers. If you are a resident of Baker County, the program is open to you.

Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer training will be held at the Duval County Cooperative Extension Service on Wednesdays, beginning August 1, 2012 and ending October 3, 2012. Training sessions begin at 9:30 a.m. and last until 4:00 p.m. Training will include topics such as basic nutrition, nutrition and health throughout the lifecycle, food safety, and the latest food preservation updates in dehydration, canning, pickling, jelly making, and freezing techniques.

There will be a charge of \$75.00 to cover lab supplies for the course. Application for a limited number of openings in the class are now being accepted.

For further information about the program in Baker County, please contact Melanie Thomas, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Agent at 904-259-3520 or via email at mlthomas@ufl.edu.

Are you interested in nutrition and personal finance?

Are you 60 years of age or older?

Men and women are needed for group discussions about the health and personal finance informational needs of older adults.

No nutrition or personal finance expertise needed, just come share your opinions!
The discussion will last no more than 2 hours.










Discussion groups will take place July 16th, at the Baker County Extension Office.

For more information and to register please contact:

Melanie Thomas
Baker County Extension
904-259-3520

Our thank you gift will be a \$20 gift card to Publix!

July 2012





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 	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	31				

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.



Upcoming Programs & Events

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

- July 13**  **Food Preservation Program, 9:30am—2pm, Clay County Extension Service, 2463 State Road 16 West, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. \$7 per person. Deadline to register is July 9. This program will emphasize the proper techniques in canning foods safely.**
- July 16**  **Older Adult Focus Group, 1pm—3pm and 3:30pm—5:30pm, Baker County Extension Service, 1025 W. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny, FL 32063. For individuals 60 years of age or older. The discussion will focus on the health and personal finance informational needs of older adults.**
- July 20**  **Food Preservation Program, 9:30am—2pm, Baker County Extension Service, 1025 W. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny, FL 32063. \$7 per person. Deadline to register is July 18. This program will emphasize the proper techniques in canning foods safely.**
- July 17**  **Conservation for Farmers, Foresters and Landowners : Keys to keeping the Farm Legacy Lands: How to conserve farms, forests, and open lands, 6pm—9pm, Baker County Extension Service, 1025 W. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny, FL 32063. North Florida Land Trust, partnering with IFAS, will be hosting a class on ways you can protect your family's land from future development. Learn about associated benefits to you from Government programs, Federal income taxes, and farm succession. Farmers and Foresters can realize 100% reductions on their income taxes, significant cuts to property taxes, lower estate taxes and more while still owning and farming their land. Non-revenue producing lands also apply for significant benefits. North Florida Land Trust has been helping landowners in the area conserve their land since 1999. This program is free of charge. Please contact the Baker County Extension Service to RSVP.**
- July 27-29**  **Florida Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises Conference, Kissimmee, FL. The purpose of the annual Florida Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises Conference is to provide farmers with up-to-date, research-based, in-depth educational information. The conference aims to facilitate solutions-based collaboration by encouraging networking and an open dialog among members of Florida's small farms community. The deadline for accommodations reservations is June 26, 2012 and the Early Bird Reservation deadline for the conference is July 9, 2012. For additional information or to register, please go to <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/smallfarms/>.**

4-H Events & Club Meetings for July:

July 3rd—Hoof-N-Around/4H Horsepower—6:30pm—Classroom

July 26th—Livestock—6:00pm—Classroom



Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:

*Shaina Bennett,
4-H Extension Agent*



Summer is here!

I am so excited that summer time has arrived! With that being said our camps are in full swing and we had a blast at Camp Cherry Lake. This year 25 youth from Baker county attended! We also completed our first summer day camp, Wild Outdoors, with great success.

The Wild Outdoors Day Camp had 6 Baker County and 2 Union County youth participate. Mr. Colan Coody from Union County taught air rifle, archery and lead our canoe trip down the Santa Fe River! The next day we went fishing and dissected owl pellets. On the last day Mrs. Susan Kett from the Division of Forestry came and we learned a lot about trees and what things are made from trees. After that we went on a nature hike, did a scavenger hunt, and had a water fight in the St. Mary's River! I think we all had a blast! Hopefully more of you will be able to participate next year!



Events:

- July 6– District Retreat, Itchetuknee
 - July 7– Weigh-in 8-10am, fairgrounds
 - July 9-12– Country Critters Day Camp, \$40
 - July 16-19– Colonial Campers, \$40
 - July 23-26– Crafty Creations, \$40
- *The deadline to register for all day camps is two (2) weeks prior to the camp. Remember, space is limited so sign up as soon as possible.**

Birthdays for June:

Wishing all of you a very **happy birthday** from the Baker County Extension Office!

- July 01– Jacquez Ruise
- July 10– Chase Tyson
- July 13– Katie Register
- July 20– Cassidi Beaver
- July 31– Sarah Murphree



Us! www.facebook.com/bakerco4h



Did You Know: To see how old a tree is you count the dark rings and for however many rings there are is how many years old the tree is?

Last month we had our awards banquet! We had around 55 people attend. Everyone enjoyed the Luau theme and the chicken from Ronie's. 4-H would like to thank all of the families for attending and bringing a dish or dessert. It was delicious!!



Doesn't the auditorium look awesome!!

JOIN | THE REVOLUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY 

Common Summer Weeds- Showy Crotalaria & Sedges

Showy Crotalaria, or rattlebox, (*Crotalaria spectabilis*) is an herbaceous annual plant that can reach heights of 4 to 5 ft. This plant has been used previously as a soil builder because of its nitrogen-fixing and nematode-reducing attributes, but is now considered a weed in many agricultural practices. Leaves are alternating on the stems and typically 4 to 7 in. long. Flowers are yellow and pea-shaped while the seed pods are smooth and long. Seed pods are light green in color when young, but turn nearly black when the seeds are ripe. The plant is considered toxic to livestock at all stages of growth.

Control: If Crotalaria was an issue in a field last year, spraying in early summer with 2,4D at 3 pts./ac. will help in control. Mature plants should be spot sprayed with either Remedy or Pasturegard at 3 pts./ac.

Image Source: (left) John D. Byrd, Mississippi State University, Bugwood.org, (right) Wendy VanDyk Evans, Bugwood.org

Source: Toxicity of Poultry to Common Weed Seeds, PS-55, Animal Sciences Department, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. First published February 2001. B. L. Damron and J. P. Jacob.

Showy Crotalaria, or Rattlebox
(*Crotalaria spectabilis*) ↗



Yellow Nutsedge (*Cyperus esculentus* L.) is an erect perennial sedge with unbranched stems which are solid and triangular in cross section. The plant frequently reaches heights of 27 to 35 in. Fruit color ranges from light tan to dark brown.

Purple Nutsedge (*Cyperus rotundus* L.) is a smooth, **erect perennial** sedge with a fibrous root system that is extensively branched. The plant is typically 14–16 in. tall (smaller than Yellow Nutsedge), but can reach heights of 40 in. in moist, fertile soils. Seed heads range in color from red to purplish-brown.

Control: Use Outrider at 1.33 ounces per acre for sedge control in established bermudagrass and bahiagrass pastures. It is effective on a wide variety of sedge species while causing little to no grass damage.

Image Source: Charles T. Bryson, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bugwood.org

Source: Weeds in Florida, SP 37, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Publication Date: May 1991. Revised: December 2004. Reviewed: February 2009. David W. Hall, Vernon V. Vandiver, and Jason A. Ferrell.

Yellow Nutsedge
Cyperus esculentus L. ↓

Purple Nutsedge
Cyperus rotundus L. ↓



Baker County Extension Service

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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).

Troubleshooting Tomato Problems

Blossom-End Rot

Blossom-end rot is often (but not always) caused by a calcium (Ca) deficiency in the developing fruit and usually appears at the blossom end or side of the fruit but can also occur internally with no visible symptoms. While this tends to be a common problem, it can be avoided through proper fertilization and good water management. Some conditions that may cause this disorder include low soil Ca, high nitrogen (N) rates, using ammoniacal sources of N, high concentrations of soluble potassium (K) and magnesium (Mg) in the soil, inadequate or excess soil moisture, root damage from nematodes and disease. If you can do so without wetting the foliage, you may also try watering at night (or evening) since night is an important time of Ca uptake. Foliar applications and fruit sprays of Ca have not proven to reduce this disorder since very little Ca is taken up by the fruit, and can not be moved from leaves to fruit.



Cracking

Cracking occurs when the tomato fruit expands faster than skin, which causes it to split. Often cracking starts at the stem end and progresses toward the blossom end and some varieties are more susceptible to cracking than others. To avoid this problem, select tolerant varieties, stick to a routine watering schedule to reduce extreme fluctuations in soil moisture, and try to maintain good foliage cover to reduce fluctuations in temperature.



Baker County Farmers Market



The Baker County Farmers Market is closed for the Spring season. We would like to thank all of our vendors and customers for providing the Market with a great Spring. Please contact the Baker County Chamber of Commerce (904-259-6433) in Sept. to obtain Market dates for the Fall season.

Source: Physiological, Nutritional, and Other Disorders of Tomato Fruit, by Stephen Olson, <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/hs200>