



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

(Position Vacant)
Agriculture Agent

Dear Extension Friends,

We hope you are enjoying your summer and making time to relax. If you need information on gardening topics or 4-H camps and clubs, please let us know how we can help. And while we are still without a County Agriculture Agent, we can connect you with others in the region to assist you.

Sincerely,

Alicia Lamborn
County Director / Horticulture Agent
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County

<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

Upcoming Programs & Events

- July 6** **Indoor Summer Gardening: Houseplants, Microgreens, & Vermicomposting**, 9:30am to Noon, Baker County Extension Office. Even the most serious gardeners can be driven indoors by the summer heat. But that shouldn't stop you from enjoying your hobby! This class will cover the basics of houseplant care, easy-to-grow edible microgreens and composting with worms (vermiculture). Includes literature, microgreens activity (take-home kit) and starter cup of worms. \$10 per person. Registration available at the Baker County Extension Office or on Eventbrite: <https://indoor-summer-gardening.eventbrite.com>
- July 9** **Camp Cherry Lake Counselor Training**, 3:30pm to 7pm, Baker County Extension Office. If you are interested in being a counselor, please contact Ms. Shaina at slbennett@ufl.edu as soon as possible.
- July 9** **Camp Cherry Lake Camper Orientation**, 6pm to 7pm, Baker County Extension Office. All campers and a parent are required to attend.
- July 16-20** **4-H Camp Cherry Lake**, Ages 8-13; Ages 14 & Up can apply to be a counselor. Location: Madison, Florida. Spots still available so sign up today! See page 3 for more details.

Highlights in Horticulture

By:
Alicia Lamborn,
Horticulture Agent

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Century plant lovers, meet *Agave lophantha*!

Also known as thorncrest century plant, *Agave lophantha* is a succulent perennial plant that is winter-hardy and easy to care for. Commonly mistaken for cacti or aloe plants, Agave is a separate genus with very distinct features. Native to the southwestern United States and Mexico, there are over 200 species of Agave plants.

Reaching only 2 feet in diameter and up to 2 to 3 feet tall, the size of this plant makes it suitable for landscapes or containers. Use this plant as a focal point in a desert garden, or in groups as a barrier.

The foliage varies in color depending on the cultivar. *Agave lophantha* 'quadricolor' (shown lower right) has dark green leaves, with yellow edges and a pale green strip down the middle; the leaves are also accented with dark red teeth lining the sides. Other cultivars also have dark green leaves with a lighter colored stripe pattern. *Agave lophantha* 'Splendida' has a creamy-gold center stripe down each leaf that brightens in spring and early summer.

This plant grows slowly and takes several years to bloom. The greenish yellow flowers form on stalks that can reach 12 feet tall. As with most Agaves, each plant only flowers once and then dies soon afterwards. However, expect numerous "pups" to grow around the base, forming new clumps of plants.

As a desert plant, *Agave lophantha* is adapted to very hot weather, but can also tolerate temperatures as low as 11°F. Be sure to water only when the soil completely dries out as these plants are susceptible to root rot when overwatered. If the site you choose isn't well-drained, choose another spot for this plant or grow in a container using a sandy cactus soil mix. Agaves grow well without fertilizer, but can be fed a slow release fertilizer to promote a full, rich look. *Agave lophantha* thrives in direct sunlight, but will tolerate partial shade as well. Thorns of this plant are very sharp and should be avoided when tending to it.

Requiring little attention, *Agave lophantha* will be a unique and strong accent to your garden or patio!



Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:
Shaina Spann,
4-H Agent

SUMMER FUN!

This summer has been packed with education, exploration, and fun! So far we have had three day camps, Robotics, Kebab, and Invasive Species. The collage below is a snapshot of some of the things that we did!



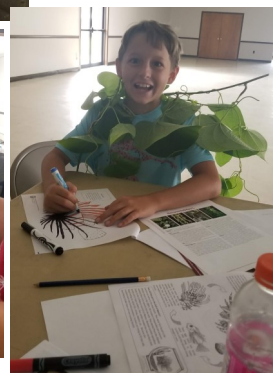
Robotics



Kebab



Invasive Species



4-H Activities & Club Meetings

- July 2-6: Ms. Shaina on vacation!
- July 9: Camp Cherry Lake Counselor Training-3:30
Orientation-6pm
- July 10-13 Living on My Own Camp (Camp Full)
- July 16-20: Camp Cherry Lake (Spots Still Available!)
- July 24-27: Copycat Kitchen (Camp Full)
- July 31-Aug 2: 4-H University; Registration Closed

4-H Camp Cherry Lake— July 16-20

Ages 8-13 & 14+ Counselor.

Location: Madison, Florida at Camp Cherry Lake.
Deadline to register: July 9th. Member \$250; Non-Member \$280 (Must be member as of 04/01).

This week-long camp is where kids can have a blast making friends, attending campfires, fishing, swimming, kayaking, and more!





Don't let the summer heat stop you
from gardening!



JOIN US FOR A CLASS ON

INDOOR SUMMER GARDENING

HOUSEPLANTS, MICROGREENS &
VERMICOMPOSTING

**\$10 PER PERSON ~ INCLUDES LITERATURE, MICROGREENS
ACTIVITY (TAKE-HOME KIT) AND STARTER CUP OF WORMS**

**JULY 6, 2018 | 9:30 AM - NOON
BAKER COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE (AG CENTER)
1025 W. MACCLENNY AVE., MACCLENNY
(904) 259-3520**

Register at the Ag Center OR online at:
<https://indoor-summer-gardening.eventbrite.com>