



The Baker Bulletin

A
Baker County
Extension
Service Monthly
Newsletter

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Dear Extension Friends,

Summer is here in North Florida and that means that Youth Camping Season is here. There are still some spaces available for day camps. Please visit <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/documents/SummerDayCamps2015FINAL.pdf> for a list of the camps and additional information, or give us a call at the office. Alicia has some good gardening tips for the summer and the agriculture page lists some common summer pasture weeds and control methods. 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

UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
IFAS Extension
Baker County Extension

Contact Information—Baker County Extension Service

1025 W. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny, FL 32063

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

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Plant of the Month: Stoke's Aster

Stoke's aster or Stokesia (*Stokesia laevis*) is a Florida native, evergreen herbaceous perennial that is very easy to grow. Numerous shaggy daisy-like flowers are produced on erect stems above the ground hugging foliage. Many cultivars are available with flower colors in various shades of blue, pink, white, and yellow. One cultivar named 'Color Wheel' has flowers that change from white to blue to purple as they mature.

Quickly growing to 1-2 feet tall and wide, this plant is popular in spring and summer with butterflies and bees that frequent the flowers for pollen and nectar. Planted in masses, it packs a punch of color to the landscape and is great for the front of perennial bed borders. Plant in full sun or partial shade, at least 18 to 24 inches apart so they have room to spread. Mature plants form clumps that spread slowly, and clumps can be divided to yield new plants.

This low-maintenance plant prefers sandy, acidic soil and once established usually only requires supplemental irrigation during times of drought. The spent flower heads can be removed as desired. A general purpose, slow-release fertilizer application in spring should be sufficient for adequate growth through the season. Like most plants, maintaining a 2- to 3- inch layer of organic mulch is beneficial to retain soil moisture and reduce weed competition. No insects or diseases are of major concern.

Visitors Welcome:
Stoke's Aster can be found planted at the Extension Office — both in the courtyard as a bed border and in the butterfly garden.



Photo by Alicia Lamborn

June Garden Calendar

Annuals & Perennials: Plants that can take full sun during hot summer months include salvia, vinca, beach sunflower, bulbine and pentas. For more information on plants that keep their cool when things heat up, see the June newsletter issue of *Highlights in Horticulture* on our website: <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu>

Herbs: Heat-loving herbs like basil, Mexican tarragon, and rosemary can be planted this month. For those already planted, pinch back regularly to prevent flowering and enhance branching.

Vegetables: Plant lima beans, southern peas, eggplant, okra, and sweet potato this month. Rotate vegetables so that the same vegetable (or members of the same vegetable family) are not planted repeatedly in the same area.

Vegetable Pests: Monitor for pest problems twice a week by inspecting plants from top to bottom, including the undersides of leaves. Most plants can stand a 10-20% loss of leaves without reducing yields. Do not panic and start spraying at the first sign of damage. Instead, remove insects by hand and destroy. Also watch for early disease symptoms and remove any infected leaves or plants to slow the spread.

Palms and Cycads: Watch for nutrient deficiencies and correct as needed. For more information, see *Physiological Disorders of Landscape Palms*: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep263>

Lawns: Determine whether yellow and brown lawn patches are caused by insects, disease, or lack of water. Take time to determine the cause so your remedy is effective. Rejuvenate areas by replacing weeds with grass plugs. For shaded areas, replace turf with a suitable shade-loving groundcover.

Need more advice? If you need help identifying a potential problem or need advice tailored to your lawn or landscape, just call and ask. We are here to help!



UF/IFAS Extension NFLAG *Equine Workshop*

June 6, 2015

**Jacksonville
Equestrian Center**

13611 Normandy Blvd.,
Jacksonville, FL 32221

8:45 a.m.-9:00 a.m. **Registration**

9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m. **Disaster Preparation for Horses**
Sydney Hayter: UF/IFAS Extension Duval County
Mike Davis: UF/IFAS Extension Baker County

9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. **Toxic Weeds: Identification and Management**
Barton Wilder: UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County

10:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m. **Fencing 101**
Tim Wilson: UF/IFAS Extension Bradford County

10:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m. **Farmscaping Your Ranch**
Jim DeValario: UF/IFAS Extension Bradford County
Dave Nister: UF/IFAS Extension Clay County

10:45 a.m.-11:15 a.m. **Break and visit sponsors**

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. **Horse Nutrition and Herd Health**
Carissa Wickens: UF/IFAS Equine
Extension Specialist

12:15 p.m.-1:00 p.m. **Lunch**

**Registration: \$10,
late registration \$20**

**Please call
352-955-2402
for more information**











**Register at EventBrite by June 3
<http://tinyurl.com/prudxfx>**



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June 2015

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	JULY 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.

- June 6** **NFLAG Equine Workshop**, 9:00am to 1:00pm, Jacksonville Equestrian Center, 13611 Normandy Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32221. The UF/IFAS North Florida Livestock Agents Group presents our annual Equine Workshop. This workshop will contain topics of interest to equine owners including: 1) Disaster Preparation for Horses, 2) Toxic Weed Identification and Management, 3) Fencing 101, 4) Farmscaping Your Ranch and 5) Horse Nutrition and Herd Health. Register online by visiting <http://tinyurl.com/prudxfx>. Online registration is \$10 per person and must be done by June 3. Late registration is \$20 per person. For additional information, please see the flyer on page 3 of this newsletter or call 352-955-2402.
- June 9** **Bonsai Workshop**, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, Clay County Extension Office, 2463 FL-16, Green Cove Springs, FL. Come learn this ancient art with Master Gardener John Terry, including the history of this ancient planting technique and various forms of bonsai. Work hands-on to create your own bonsai—each participant will create and take home their own. \$40 Seating is limited, so sign up today! Register with Eventbrite: <https://eventbrite.com/event/17028603010/>
- June 19** **Growing Backyard Blueberries & Blackberries**, 10:00am to 12:00pm, Baker County Extension Office, Macclenny, FL. Back by popular demand! Topics include variety selection, preparing to plant, care and maintenance, and pest management. \$2 registration fee due by June 17th.
- June 26** **Raised Bed Gardening**, 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Baker County Extension Office, Macclenny, FL. Learn the basics of growing vegetables in raised beds plus techniques like square foot gardening, straw bale gardening, and easy DIY garden planters. Class is free; call 259-3520 to RSVP by June 24th.
- July 1** **Master Gardener Volunteer Training Course (Applications Due)** Classes will be Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9am to 1pm, August 4th to September 24th at the Baker County Extension Office, Macclenny, FL. Florida Master Gardeners are professionally trained volunteers who assist the county agent by sharing unbiased, research-based gardening information with the community. Applications for this program are being accepted through July 1st. Applications are available online at: http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/master_gardener.html



4-H Club Meetings & Events:

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

Livestock Club — June 20th, Fairgrounds, Check with Club Leaders

Cloverleaf Cloggers — Not meeting when school is out

Important Dates: June 2015

- 08– Camp Cherry Lake Orientation, Auditorium, 6pm
- 13– Camp Cluster Counselor Training, Auditorium, 10am
- 10-12– All About Animals Day Camp
- 15-17– Wild About Weather Day Camp
- 22-26– Camp Cherry Lake!!



Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:
Shaina Bennett,
4-H Agent

CAMP CHERRY LAKE IS COMING!

The deadline for Camp Cherry Lake will be here soon!!!

If you are interested in going to Camp Cherry Lake please contact the Extension Office for more details. We will be going the week of June 22nd through the 26th. It is \$210 for 4-H members and \$225 for non-members. The deadline to register is June 8th (payment in cash) at the camp orientation meeting, June 8th at 6:00pm in the Ag Center Auditorium.

4-H University—July 27-31, 2015. Gainesville, ages 14+ (as of 9/1/14) deadline to register June 22nd—Cost \$280

There are still spaces available for day camps at this time.

Second Annual Baker County 4-H Auction

The second annual Baker County 4-H Auction was held on Saturday May 16th at the Baker County Extension Office Auditorium. Thank you to everyone who came! We appreciate all of the hard work you all did on that night! Can you believe that we raised over \$5000!? It was a definite success! Let's hope next year is even better!

Events:

June

- 03– Last day of school!
- 13– Camp Cluster Counselor Training, Auditorium, 10am
- 08– Camp Cherry Lake Orientation, Auditorium, 6pm
- 10-12– All About Animals Day Camp
- 15-17– Wild About Weather Day Camp
- 22-26– Camp Cherry Lake!!

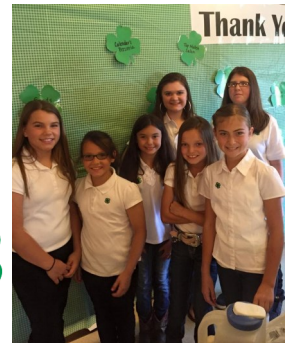
July

- 06-09– First Responders Camp
- 14-17– Seafood Day Camp
- 20-22– Budding Artists Camp
- 24– Budding Artists Field Trip
- 27-31– 4-H University, Gainesville, FL

Birthdays for June:

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

- 01– Tanner Bridges
- 02– Alissa Rawlins
- 11– Tucker Thrift
- 17– Breanna Johnson
- 21– Harrison Chapman



**Livestock Club will meet
Saturday,
June 20th, 2015
At Fairgrounds
Sign-up with Ms. Emily**

**Cloverleaf Cloggers
will not meet
in summer.
They will resume when
school starts back.**



Like Us! www.facebook.com/bakerco4h

Common Summer Weeds in Pastures: Sicklepod and Coffee Senna

Sicklepod (*Senna obtusifolia* L.) is often referred to as coffeebean, is an annual plant with erect stems and light green leaves that grow in pairs. Mature plants display yellow flowers and the seed pods are round with brownish, angular seeds. Sicklepod is poisonous to livestock and should be sprayed during the summer months to prevent livestock from grazing it. The plants typically mature in late summer to fall.

Control: Herbicides that contain 2,4-D are excellent at controlling sicklepod when they are young. Early treatment is recommended for good control. Mature plants that are found in pastures in late summer to early fall should be manually removed to prevent animal poisoning.



←————→
Sicklepod, or coffeebean
(*Senna obtusifolia* L.)

Image Source: (left) Rebekah D. Wallace, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org; (right) Chris Evans, Illinois Wildlife Plan, 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 April 2003. Reviewed January 2012. David W. Hall, Vernon V. Vandiver, and Jason A. Ferrell.

Coffee Senna (*Senna occidentalis* L.) is very similar to sicklepod as they are in the same family. The leaves of the plant are ovate to lance shaped. Like sicklepod, flowers of coffee senna are yellow. Seed pods are flat, dark brown and tend to be 3 to 4 inches long. Mature plants can reach heights of 6 feet. Seeds of this plant are known to be weakly toxic to livestock, so removal is recommended.

Control: As with sicklepod, herbicides that contain 2,4-D will control coffee senna. Early treatment is recommended for good control. Mature plants that are found in pastures in late summer to early fall should be manually removed to prevent animal poisoning.



←————→
Coffee Senna
(*Senna occidentalis* L.)

Source: Weeds in Florida, SP 37, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. Publication Date: May 1991. Revised April 2003. Reviewed January 2012. David W. Hall, Vernon V. Vandiver, and Jason A. Ferrell.

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).



Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program Applications Accepted through July 1.

The Master Gardener Program was created in 1972 when an innovative Extension Service Agent in Washington State realized that well-trained volunteers could respond to many homeowner questions. Since that time, the Master Gardener Program has grown to include all 50 states and Canada.

The Baker County Master Gardener Program began in 1992.

As a Master Gardener volunteer you will be able to: answer homeowner's plant questions, create and maintain school garden projects, work to grow a crop in our green house, continue your gardening education, and much more.

Applications and additional information for this program can be found online at:

http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/master_gardener.html