



The Baker Bulletin

A
Baker County
Extension
Service Monthly
Newsletter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Horticulture	2
Horticulture	3
Calendar	4
Upcoming Events	5
4-H	6
Agriculture	7
Notices	8

Dear Extension Friends,

Spring is almost upon us, so it is time to start thinking about your lawn, garden, or pasture. Now is the time to get your soil tested to determine soil supplement needs such as lime and fertilizer. You can pick up a soil test kit at the Extension Office. Please also note that our Annual Spring Garden Festival is coming up on April 1, so come out and enjoy all of the vendors and educational booths. Finally, for those folks with pastures, it is time to think about prepping your pasture for spring. You can find tips for this on page 7 in the Agriculture Section. As always, if we can help you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Davis
Director / Agriculture Agent
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County

UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
IFAS Extension
Baker County Extension

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.
michael.davis@ufl.edu
Agriculture Agent

Alicia Lamborn
alamborn@ufl.edu
Horticulture Agent

Shaina Spann
slbennett@ufl.edu
4-H Agent



Highlights in Horticulture

By:
Alicia Lamborn,
Horticulture Agent

2

Sneak Peak

Master Gardener Plant Sale @ Spring Garden Festival



Verbena 'Homestead Purple'

Pollinator-friendly perennial groundcover — 6-8" tall — full sun
Purple flower clusters spring to fall — evergreen in our butterfly garden

Lantana 'Miss Huff'

Pollinator-friendly perennial — 4-6' tall and wide — Full sun
Flowers change from orange to pink spring to frost — Sterile variety



Sweetspire 'Henry's Garnet'

Flowering shrub — 3-4' tall, 4-6' wide — Partial shade or sun — White
flower clusters May-June last for weeks — Red fall color — Thrives in moist
soils, but adapts to dry conditions; prune after flowering



Amaryllis

Unknown colors but may be blooming during sale — Full sun or light shade —
Plant 12 to 15 inches apart with the neck of the bulb protruding above ground



Salvia 'Indigo Spires'

Pollinator-friendly perennial — a dependable butterfly/bee magnet
Purple-blue flowers - blooms spring through fall - beautiful when mass
planted - 2' tall, 2-3' wide - drought tolerant



Pineapple Guava

Flowering shrub or small tree — Evergreen — 15' tall & wide —
Full sun to partial shade — Edible flowers & fruit — Flowers in spring,
fruit ripens Aug-Oct — needs cross-pollination



Japanese Butterfly Bush

Pollinator-friendly shrub — 6-12' tall & wide — Lavender flowers spring and
summer — Full sun or light shade — Drought and heat tolerant —
Very hardy — Semi evergreen — Weeping habit



UF/IFAS Extension
Baker County
presents

UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



9th annual

Spring Garden Festival

Held in the Arboretum & Gardens
1025 W. Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny FL

Saturday, April 1, 2017
9 am - 2 pm

plant
SALE

KIDS
Activities

gardening
EXHIBITS

FREE
ENTRY











Florida-Friendly
Landscaping
ADVICE

FRUIT
ORCHARD
TOURS
@ 10 & 11

The Foundation for the Gator Nation
An Equal Opportunity Institution



March 2017

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	April 1 Spring Garden Festival 

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.

- Mar 13-14** **Starting a Successful Hydroponic Business**, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Suwannee Valley Agricultural Extension Center, Live Oak, FL. Information and registration at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/starting-a-successful-hydroponic-business-registration-28234463039?aff=erellivmlt>
- Mar 17-18** **Starting a Successful Hydroponic Business**, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Suwannee Valley Agricultural Extension Center, Live Oak, FL. Information and registration at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/starting-a-successful-hydroponic-business-registration-28234463039?aff=erellivmlt>
- Mar 30** **Canning Under the Cottage Law**, 9:00am to 1:00pm, UF/IFAS Extension Polk County, 1702 Hwy 17 S., Bartow, FL 33830. Find out about recent changes in law which allow direct to consumer sale of certain products prepared in a home kitchen. Cost is \$10 per person. Register on the calendar page of <http://polksmallfarms.com>. For additional information, contact Rita West at 863-519-1043 (ritawest@ufl.edu) or Mary Beth Henry at 863-519-1049 (mbhenry@ufl.edu).
- April 1** **9th Annual Spring Garden Festival**, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Baker County Extension Arboretum & Gardens (Ag Center), 1025 West Macclenny Ave. Baker County Master Gardens will offer plants for sale, Florida-Friendly Landscaping advice, fruit orchard tours, kids activities, and much more! Local vendors will display plants for sale and gardening exhibits. Free entry. Call 259-3520 for more information.
- April 22** **2017 Honey Bee Seminar**, 9:00am to 3:30 pm, UF/IFAS Extension Polk County, 1702 Hwy 17 S., Bartow, FL 33830. This seminar will give you a taste of everything you need to know about beekeeping, including: hive construction, honey extraction, bee transport, queen bees, nectar sources, tools, pests, diseases, and more. Registration cost is \$20 per person before the seminar and \$25 per person on the day of the seminar. Persons ages 11 to 18 are \$10 per person. Register online on the calendar page of <http://polksmallfarms.com>. For additional information, please visit http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar/2017_0422_BeekeepingSeminar.pdf.



4-H Club Meetings

Cloverleaf Cloggers — Every Monday at 7pm in the auditorium. Contact your club leader to confirm.

Livestock Club — Fourth Tuesday of each month at 6pm In the auditorium. Contact club leader to confirm.

SPIN Club— Contact Sara Rungruang at sjrunguang@gmail.com for more information.



**The Mandatory
Livestock Animal Orientation Meeting is
TUESDAY APRIL 4' 2017
From 6:30pm-7:30pm
in the Auditorium.
If you do not attend this meeting
you cannot participate
in a livestock project.**



Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:

Shaina Spann,

4-H Agent

6

Upcoming Events

- 03– Deadline to Register for 3rd Executive Board
10-12– 3rd Executive Board, Camp Timpooshee, Niceville, for
4-H youth 13 & up
18– NE District Volunteer Forum, Camp Cherry Lake, Madison, FL
24-31– Mrs. Shaina at National 4-H Conference, Washington, DC

April

- 01– Spring Garden Festival, Arboretum, 9am -2pm
04– Livestock Animal Orientation Meeting, 6:30pm-7:30pm
13– District Events , Lake Butler, 6pm-8pm
14– Office Closed, Good Friday
17-19– Mrs. Shaina at Extension Symposium

May

- 06– Annual 4-H Auction, Auditorium, 6pm

MANDATORY MEETING

Livestock Animal
Orientation Meeting
Tuesday, April 4th, 2017
From 6:30pm-7:30pm
in the Auditorium.



If you do not attend this meeting you cannot participate in a livestock project.

Anyone interested in exhibiting an animal or showing a market animal is required to attend.



CAMP CHERRY LAKE

June 19-23, 2017

Ages 8+ Must be 4-H member as of 4/1.

Deadline to register: June 6th

Early registration due June 2:

Member \$230; Non-Member \$260

Late registration after June 2:

Member \$250; Non-Member \$280

Camp Orientation June 12th at 6:00 pm,

Ag Center Auditorium.

Payment plans available upon request.

Prepping Your Pasture for Spring



Even though we have had some cold weather lately, it's time to start thinking about spring green-up. This is the time of year that many pasture owners and forage producers will start to apply fertilizer to help

meet the nutritional demands of livestock. Planning ahead will help you to get the optimum performance from your pasture.

Soil Testing—Soil testing is an integral part of forage management. Not only will a soil test inform you of the amount of fertilizer that you need to apply, it will also give you the current pH and lime requirement. It is important to know this information as early as you can as it typically takes lime applications 3 to 6 months before they fully regulate the pH to the desired level. You should also keep in mind that while we generally have acidic soils here in North Florida, repeated lime application to soil without determining the pH can raise pH to an undesirable level.

Timing of Fertilizer Application—Fertilizers should be applied when the forage crop is actively growing. Established warm-season grasses such as bahiagrass and bermudagrass typically begin good growth when the constant nighttime temperature reaches 50° to 60°F. Once temperatures reach this level, fertilizer can be applied. If you have a new planting in the field, only apply fertilizer after the plants have emerged. You should also split the fertilizer for new plantings so that you don't waste fertilizer on newly emerged plants. Applications should be made after plant emergence and 1 to 2 months after the first fertilization.

Walk the Line—It's not just a old Johnny Cash song. Walking your pasture and fence line can help to identify problem areas. Make sure to look at fences, gates, crossings, lanes and other areas that your livestock will be using. During this inspection it is also important to

note areas that are bare or look like they were overgrazed so that they can be reseeded for the upcoming growing season.

Take Care of Weed Issues—During your inspection of the pasture, you should also make sure to note areas that may be infested with weeds or have the potential to become infested. There are many herbicide options available for common pasture weeds, but they should be applied with the correct timing. Many small broadleaf weeds can be taken care of with 2,4-D, which is fairly inexpensive. However, if these weeds are allowed to mature, it may take a more expensive option to rid yourself of the problem.

Plan and Follow Through—Finally, it is important to plan the activities for your pasture early, especially if you are using a rotational grazing scheme. Having a good plan will help you get the optimum performance from your land while helping to decrease the costs of materials and labor.

UF | IFAS Beef Management Tips for March—the full calendar can be found at http://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/beef_extension/docs/beef_calendar.pdf.

- Fertilize pasture to stimulate early growth.
- Prepare land for summer crops.
- Begin grazing warm-season permanent pastures.
- Check and fill mineral feeder.
- Observe bulls for condition and success. Rotate and rest if needed.
- Deworm cows as needed.
- Make sure calves are healthy and making good weight gains.
- Hang force-use dust bags by April 1st for external parasite control or use insecticide impregnated ear tags.
- Identify, vaccinate, implant and work late calves.
- Put bulls out March 1st for calving season to start December 9th.
- Remove bulls March 22nd to end calving season January 1st.

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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).



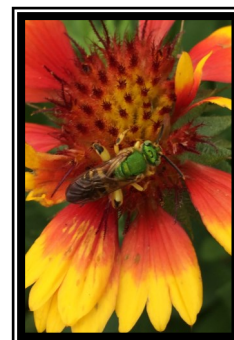
Beyond honeybees & butterflies...a make & take

Pollinator Workshop

Friday, May 19th

10am - Noon

\$20



Topics:

Florida's native bees and other pollinators

Pollinator plants for your garden

DIY native bee nest boxes

Make & Take Native Bee House:

Stuff a pre-built "bee house" (similar to one shown right) with a variety of materials to create a nesting habitat for native bees that doubles as garden art. All materials will be provided.

For more information, please call (904) 259-3520

