



## 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 8:30 am to 5:00 pm  
(Closed Noon to 1:00 pm for Lunch)

#### County Agents

**Alicia Lamborn**  
Horticulture Agent

**Shaina Spann**  
4-H Youth Development Agent

**Alicia Halbritter**  
Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent

Dear Extension Friends,

We are still in need of peanut butter donations,  
non-perishable foods for our Farm City Thanksgiving Baskets,  
and feedback from you in your newsletter survey!

Please consider helping where you can.

As always, we appreciate your help!

Sincerely,

Alicia Lamborn, County Director  
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County



Take Our Survey & Enter to Win A  
Gardener's Gift Basket!

<https://forms.gle/gFkqVf1PqTANWoua8>

[http://  
baker.ifas.ufl.edu](http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu)

[http://  
blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/bakerco](http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/bakerco)

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

Check out our Livestock  
Google Site!

## Programs & Events

**Nov 9** **Holiday Meals in an Instant** 6:00-8:30 p.m. (Virtual Class) Learn some great holiday recipes using your electric pressure cooker. [Register here](#). See flyer on page 8 for more details.

**Dec 6** **4-H Holiday Bake-off & New 4-H Year Kickoff Event**  
See page 6 for details.



### Strawberry Gardening Class (Self-Paced, Online Course — Free!)

Class topics include how to select, plant, and grow strawberries in the home garden. [Register here](#) to access our classroom which includes a 25-minute instructional video, gardening resources, and strawberry recipes.



### Selling Backyard Poultry Products (Self-Paced, Online Course)

Learn how to start a business (or improve an existing business) selling eggs, meat, or live poultry in the state of Florida. Topics include licensing/registration, record keeping, filing taxes, marketing your product, and drawing an income. [Register here](#).

# Highlights in Horticulture

By:  
Alicia Lamborn,  
Horticulture Agent



## Trap Crops, Intercropping, & Companion Planting

### Fall Edition

There is much “information” on this topic online, but not all is backed by research. This article aims to provide research-based information on the topic, including the benefits of using these techniques, some things to consider before getting started, and some potentially practical applications for farmers (and perhaps home gardeners as well).

**Trap Crops** are grown as a control measure to lure pests away from the cash crop to protect it from attack. Pests are either prevented from reaching the crop or concentrated in certain parts of the field away from the main crop. The principle of trap cropping relies on pest preference for certain plant species, cultivars, or a certain stage of crop development (fruiting/seed production stage). When trap crops successfully attract pests, damage to the main crop is limited and insecticide treatments can be reserved for the trap crop growing in a localized area instead of treating the entire field.



**Collards & Cabbage:** In northeast Florida, planting collards around the perimeters of cabbage fields helped reduce pesticide sprays for diamondback moth on cabbage by 75-100% over fields without collards. Collards planted between rows of cabbage also have the potential as a trap crop for this moth, and additionally play an important role in maintaining populations of beneficial insects.

**Intercropping** is the growing of two or more crops in the same field to promote beneficial interactions between them. This may involve planting different crops in alternating row, or mixed intercropping by planting different crops in the same row or without regard to row. Intercropping can provide benefits to a management system, including decreased insect pest pressure, reduced need for external inputs, increases in biodiversity, enhanced production and lower economic risk.



**Alyssum intercropped with organic romaine** on a farm in California. Alyssum provides floral resources for adult syrphid flies, which lay eggs on aphid-infested romaine. The syrphid fly larvae then feed on the aphids.

Photo credit: Hugh Smith <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/IN922>

**Companion Planting** refers to the establishment of two or more species in close proximity so that some cultural benefit (pest control or increased yield) may be achieved. Companion planting is a method of mixed intercropping most often used in small home gardens.



**Using ryegrass as a living mulch** can suppress weeds, but may also suppress growth of neighboring plants.

When planted alongside each other, some plants repel pests—**onions and leeks grown alongside carrots** can act as a repellent to the carrot fly in areas where it is a problem.



**Benefits** include reducing damage to cash crops, attracting beneficial organisms, decreased chemical use, enhanced biodiversity, and increased productivity.

**Things to Consider:** techniques are only beneficial when fields are likely to be invaded with high numbers of pests; improper management may create pest nurseries; treatment of trap crops with insecticides may lead to pesticide resistance and destruction of natural enemies; further complications may arise when trying to manage multiple pests with different behaviors; application may be limited for certain crops.

Stay tuned for another edition on this topic in spring!

# Barnyard Bulletin

By:  
*Alicia Halbritter,*  
*Agriculture Agent*



## Selling Livestock for Custom Slaughter “Freezer Beef”

Do you have an interest in selling livestock like pigs, goats, cattle, or possibly poultry as meat animals to consumers? Florida has an exempt slaughter process through the use of custom processing that allows for animal owners to sell the animal to consumers and have the consumer pick up products from the processor. This meat cannot be broken out and sold to a variety of consumers, that can only be done with meat slaughtered in a USDA-inspected facility. Find custom-slaughter facilities in north Florida here: <https://extadmin.ifas.ufl.edu/nflag/livestock/livestock-markets--slaughterhouses/>

### Raising the Animal

Secure a market for customers before raising the animal. Meat animals can be expensive to raise and some are processed rather quickly therefore it is important to have deposits from customers to cover costs and ensure sales. Determine a plan for each animal and estimate grow-out time, feed costs, and any other associated operational costs including transport to the processor.



### Securing a Processor

Custom processors have a limited capacity of animals they can harvest and process at one time, particularly for animals like hogs and cattle that need to be aged before processing is completed. Make sure you secure a processor that has availability at the time your animals will be ready to harvest. This processor should be accessible to your customers since they will likely be picking up their product themselves.

### Selling Halves or Quarters

For larger animals with high carcass weights (pork and beef) you may want to sell halves or quarter carcasses to attract more consumers. Some customers will not be able to afford nor store the meat derived from a whole carcass. This process is legal to do under custom processing and is highly encouraged to attract more sales. As with whole animal sales, make sure to collect deposits from each buyer to cover costs.

### Selling Packaged Meat

Meat processed under the custom-exempt method is not legal to resell or sell as packaged cuts. If a seller wishes to sell individual cuts the animal must be slaughtered and meat processed/packaged in a USDA-inspected facility.





## 4-H Holiday Bake-Off & Party



### A Storybook Holiday!

The holiday season is upon us!! Let's use this time to gather with friends and family and have a great time at the 4-H Holiday Party! Please bring a children's book to donate to families in need. Dress as your favorite character for the party and you could win the costume contest!

Livestock Club members- Bring a finger food/appetizer dish big enough for your family with a utensil to serve it.

Baker's Busy Bees Club members- Bring a dessert big enough to serve your family with a utensil to serve it.

**When: December 6, 2019**

**Time: 6:00pm-7:30pm**

**Where: Ag Center Auditorium**

### **REMINDER—"THANK YOU" LETTERS DUE THIS MONTH!**

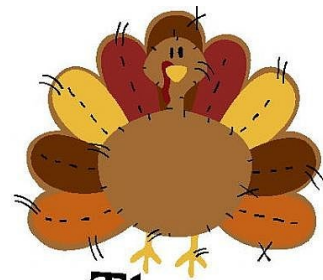
\*\*These should go to those that purchased your animal  
AND to those who contributed add-ons. \*\*

Unsealed, Addressed, & Self Addressed Thank You letters are due to the Extension Office by:

- November 30, 2021, exhibitor will forfeit \$50 of check amount
- December 21, 2021, exhibitor will forfeit \$100 of check amount
- January 6, 2022, exhibitor will forfeit \$200 of check amount

### ELEMENTS OF A 4-H PROJECT

1. Education- At least 6 hours of learning
2. Exhibit- Show off your project
3. Demonstration- Teach others about your project
4. Record Book- Keep track of your activities
5. Service- Use your abilities to give back to others
6. Leadership- Grow into leading others



## Happy Thanksgiving

### 4-H Club Meetings & Events

- **Livestock Club**— Will resume January 25th in the Ag Center Auditorium.
- **Baker's Busy Bees Club**— November 16 @ 6pm
- **Leadership Adventure Weekend (LAW)**- Ages 14+ December 3-5, 2019. Camp Timpoochee in Niceville, FL. **Registration due: \$115 by Nov. 22.** Must provide own transportation.



# HOW TO WRITE "THANK YOU" LETTERS



You are going to thank someone for doing something wonderful for you. Remember -- this person or business did NOT have to do this for you! If they purchased your auction animal, OR, if they donated toward your animal, you are grateful. (Put yourself in their place: If you were the one who donated some hard-earned money, etc., you would want someone to thank you!) So, send them a letter, in your best handwriting: Thank you cards are OK, if you include the following in it.

The person or business receiving the letter must know:

(1) who and what you are, (2) what you did to get their donation and (3) just how grateful you are!

### Thank You Letter Guide:

(1) Give your full name, and your age or grade, and that you are a 4-H member who is in the \_\_\_\_\_ project, for \_\_\_ years, and a member of the \_\_\_\_\_ club. If you are acquainted with this donor, remind them how they might know of you.

(2) Tell or remind them that they were the successful bidder for your animal (what kind, its weight, etc.), OR, that you won an award (name the award and the category that the award was for) that they donated to, and how you won that honor.

(3) Most adults LIKE to read letters from young people. Tell them what you plan to do with this money or award. Tell them about your 4-H plans for next year and a little something about yourself. And tell them how thankful you are to have received this "wonderful" thing that they did for you.

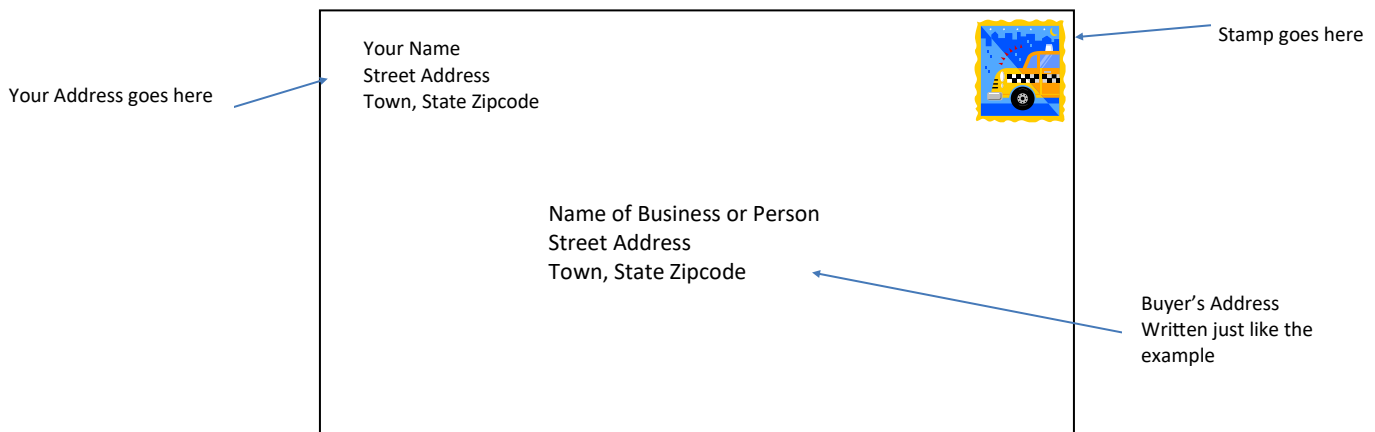
(4) It is also good to mention something like: "I am glad that donors like you contribute to the 4-H program and help provide an incentive to all 4-H members to make the best better." OR, "I am happy to have a buyer like you who helps make the 4-H youth auction program possible. OR, better yet, use your own words to tell this person or business that you are grateful that people like them do contribute to a very important and worthwhile youth education program.

(5) At the bottom of your letter, write: "Sincerely," and sign your name.

### HOW TO ADDRESS ENVELOPES:

Start donor's 3 or 4-line address about ½-1-inch left of the center of your envelope (see example below).

Put your name and address in the upper left-hand corner. Stamp goes in the upper right-hand corner.



Turn them in to Ms. Shaina addressed, and stamped, but not sealed up so we can check them to make sure it's a good letter. In addition if you do not have your thank you letters in:

- Forfeit \$50 from check if not done by November 30<sup>th</sup>**
- Forfeit \$100 from check if not done by December 31<sup>st</sup>**
- Forfeit \$200 from check if not done by January 31<sup>st</sup>**



# 2021 Holiday Bake-Off



The purpose of the Holiday Bake-Off is to encourage adults and youth to work together on a project. This is not a traditional 4-H contest where a 4-H member must do all the work themselves. Mixes, precooked, and non-cooked items may be used in the finished product. Work should be done by the youth with supervision, directions and help of an adult. Entries **must** have a festive holiday appearance.

Only one entry per child per category. Cloverbuds will not be judged, but will receive a participation ribbon. Products will be judged on appearance, taste and display. Overall winner of each category receives the coveted Golden Spoon! Overall winner of the Bake-off receives the honor of Giant Golden Spoon and prize! All entries (after awards) will be sampled at the Holiday Party.

### Categories:

- Cakes
- Decorated cakes
- Cupcakes
- Pies
- Candies
- Cookies
- Gingerbread Cookies
- Brownies/Bar Cookies
- Breads
- Appetizers
- Lite Recipes
- **NEW!** Honey Based- An item with honey as a large ingredient
- Specialty Items-Gingerbread Houses or decorated cakes not to be sampled
- Gift Baskets- ANY type of holiday basket. It could be a cornucopia with gourds, a candy basket, a dessert basket, or more! Use your imagination!

*Overall winner of the Bake-off receives the honor of Giant Golden Spoon and a prize!*



**4-H Holiday Bake-Off Entry Form**  
**Entry Form Must Accompany Each Item**  
**Due December 6rd, between 7:30-9:30am**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Item Category: \_\_\_\_\_

Item Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Ingredients/Recipe: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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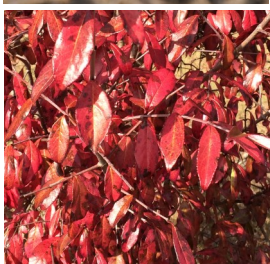
# Florida's Native Flora & Fauna

By: Alicia Lamborn, Environmental Horticulture Agent

Featuring some of Florida's native flora (plant life) and fauna (animal life) so you can learn to recognize, appreciate, and protect native species. We'll also aim to dispel myths and provide tips for managing conflicts with wildlife.

## Rusty Blackhaw

Rusty Blackhaw (*Viburnum rufidulum*) is a nice multi-trunked small tree or large shrub, perfect for low maintenance, naturalized yards. Reaching 25 feet in height with an equal spread, trunks generally arch away from the tree to form a pleasing vase-shaped crown. Young plants can also be trained into a single trunk tree.



Leaves are dark green, leathery, and extremely glossy. The tree is covered in springtime with striking clusters of small, white blooms. These flowers are followed by clusters of dark blue, waxy fruits that are extremely popular with wildlife and will occasionally persist on the plant throughout the autumn, if not eaten by wildlife. In fall, Rusty Blackhaw puts on a brilliant display of scarlet red to purple foliage.

Rusty Blackhaw will grow and look nice in full sun or partial shade on any reasonably fertile, well-drained soil. The tree will also grow in shade but usually produces fewer flowers and has a more open habit.

This Florida native is drought tolerant but will not tolerate compacted soil. Use this species as a hedge, specimen, border tree, or plant beneath power lines and in limited space areas.

Adapted and excerpted from: Gilman, E. F. and Watson, D.G. (1993). *Viburnum rufidulum*: Rusty Blackhaw. University of Florida. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st661>  
Photos by: Alicia Lamborn, UF/IFAS Extension

## Two-striped Walkingstick

The most common stick insect in Florida is the two-striped walkingstick (*Anisomorpha buprestoides*). These insects are usually brown with three conspicuous longitudinal black stripes (top right). But there is also a black and white color form (bottom right) found only in the Ocala National Forest.



Photo Credits: Michael Thomas, FDOACS-DPI

Like other stick insects, the two-striped walkingstick feeds on the leaves of trees and shrubs. Females are large and stout, reaching up to 2.5 inches. Males are smaller and more slender, averaging only 1.5 inches. Adult walkingsticks are most abundant in the fall and are often observed in pairs with the male riding the female's back during mating.



If you find yourself observing this insect, keep a safe distance! This species can squirt a strong-smelling defensive spray that is painfully irritating to the eyes, nose, and throat. If they feel threatened, they can aim their painful spray up to 16+ inches with accuracy and discharge up to 5 times for large females. If you happen to be sprayed, immediately drench the area with cool water to reduce the burning to a dull aching pain. Seek medical attention if vision loss or light sensitivity occurs.

Reference and Photo Credits: Thomas, Michael C. 2003. Two-striped Walkingstick, *Anisomorpha burprestoides*. University of Florida. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/IN590>



# Extension Tidbits

## EDIBLES TO PLANT IN *November*

	North	Central	South
 Easily Survives Transplanting	Arugula, Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Kale, Kohlrabi, Sugarcane, Swiss Chard	Arugula, Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Endive, Kale, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Sugarcane, Swiss Chard	Arugula, Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Eggplant, Endive, Kale, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Peppers, Strawberry, Sugarcane, Swiss Chard, Tomatillo, Tomatoes, Tropical Spinaches
 Transplant Carefully	Celery, Mustard, Spinach	Celery, Mustard, Pineapple, Potatoes, Spinach	Amaranth, Calabaza, Celery, Long Squash, Luffa, Mustard, Pineapple, Potatoes, Seminole Pumpkin, Spinach
 Use Seeds	Carrots, Onions (bunching), Radish, Turnips	Carrots, Onions (bunching), Peas (English), Radish, Turnips	Beans (bush, lima, pole), Carrots, Corn, Cucumbers, Onions (bunching), Peas (English, southern), Radish, Squashes, Turnips

Check out these great resources from UF/IFAS Extension:

[Vegetables Grown Under Protected Ag Structures](#)

[Hydroponic Vegetable Production](#)

[Aquaponics: A Practical Guide](#)

[Grafting & Budding](#)  
(Propagating Fruit Crops in Florida—a \$6 booklet from IFAS Bookstore)

[Florida Greenhouse Design](#)

[Cover Crops](#)

[Organic Gardening](#)



For more information, please visit [GardeningSolutions.ifas.ufl.edu](http://GardeningSolutions.ifas.ufl.edu)



## HOLIDAY MEALS IN AN INSTANT



Make this holiday season easier by letting your electric pressure cooker do the work!



Cook with us virtually on Nov. 9th 6:00-8:30pm. Learn some great holiday recipes using your electric pressure cooker. Cost: \$5

Register Here: <https://tinyurl.com/instantholiday>

