



The Baker Bulletin

A
Baker County
Extension
Service Monthly
Newsletter

Baker County Extension Service

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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

Alicia Halbritter
Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent

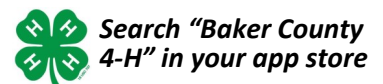
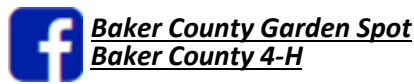
Dear Extension Friends,

For 4-H families, we have several important updates this month including our new 4-H enrollment system, a program needs assessment survey, a new livestock club website, a holiday cookbook, and more! Please be sure to check those on page 3 and participate in the survey. For those who have inquired about strawberry plants this fall, please stay tuned! We hope to send out a notice with information on how to purchase your plants very soon.

Sincerely,

Alicia

Alicia Lamborn, County Director
UF/IFAS Extension Baker County



Have you received unsolicited seed packages from China? Drop them off at your local County Extension Office.

UF/IFAS Extension Offices are serving as collection sites for the mysterious seed packages sent from China that require further investigation by The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS). The concern is that these seeds may be invasive, may introduce pathogens, or may pose other risks.



Photo courtesy of FDACS

Criteria for dropping off seeds at Extension Offices:

- Extension offices are to accept ONLY opened packages known to contain seed material.
- Seed packets and their original packaging materials must be sealed in a plastic zip bag.
- Upon arrival, complete a form/questionnaire which will be attached to your specimen for further investigation.
- Although not mandatory for drop offs, it is also recommended to file a report with FDACS at FDACS.gov/seedbymail

Unopened packages and packages containing other non-agricultural items should be maintained by the homeowner and they should contact USDA APHIS Anti-Smuggling hotline at 1-800-877-3835 or SITC.mail@aphis.usda.gov

Highlights in Horticulture

By:
Alicia Lamborn,
Horticulture Agent



September Gardening Tips

Flowers

- Divide clumping perennial plants like daylily and amaryllis if they have become overcrowded. This will improve flowering and plant quality.
- Pull out any annuals struggling from the heat, bugs, or wet conditions to make room for cool season annuals in October.

Trees & Shrubs

- Mulch may need replenishing, but a 2–3 inch layer is all that is needed. Avoid "volcano mulching." When mulch is piled against the base of a tree, it encourages rot in the trunk.

Insects & Diseases

- Scout for pests like scale, caterpillars, and whiteflies. While some pests can be removed by hand, heavy infestations may require treatment using a product that targets the pest and not beneficial insects (like insecticidal soaps, oils, and Bt).
- Diseases have been prevalent with the nearly constant wet weather we have been experiencing. Consider pruning out severely infected leaves and spraying a fungicide as needed to protect the remaining healthy tissue.
- Questions? The Extension office can provide guidance on what and how to treat pests and diseases in your yard.

Lawns

- Mid-September is the time to "winterize" using a fertilizer product containing equal amounts nitrogen and potassium and no more than 2% phosphorus (15-0-15, 18-2-18). Check the label to determine the appropriate amount to apply or go to <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep236>.
- Hand pull perennial weeds that are setting seed. Chemicals are less effective at this later stage of development.
- If winter weeds were a problem last year, get ready to treat problematic areas with a pre-emergent herbicide beginning in early October with air temperatures reach 65-70°F for 4-5 consecutive days. Need help selecting the right product for your weeds? Let us know and we can help!

Vegetables & Herbs

- Prepare the fall vegetable garden and begin planting cool season crops. Using transplants from a local garden center will get the garden off to a fast start, but seeds offer more varieties to choose from. For a list of Florida-proven performers, See Vegetable Gardening in Florida: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_vegetable_gardening
- Herbs that can be planted this month include: basil, lemon balm, chives, fennel, sage, oregano and thyme.

Hurricane Lily

Late summer is the time that hurricane lilies begin popping up in Florida landscapes and roadside ditches. Southerners have other common names for these flowers, including surprise lily, magic lily, resurrection lily, red spider lily, and naked lady.

What makes these flowers so interesting is that they appear out of nowhere, usually after a heavy rain. The plant's foliage doesn't appear until fall but persists through winter, only to die back during the heat of summer before the cycle repeats.

The most common hurricane lily in Florida is *Lycoris radiata* var. *radiata*, also known as red spider lily. The plant produces airy clusters of red flowers with whisker-like stamens on top of naked stems that will grow up to 18 inches tall. Each bulb can produce one to four flower stems, and each cluster of flowers will last about two weeks if protected from wind and sun. The shape and color of the flowers makes them popular with butterflies.



Photo credit: UF/IFAS Gardening Solutions

Hurricane lilies can be grown successfully in North and Central Florida. This plant is not usually available in garden centers, but the bulbs can be purchased from online catalogs. Of course, they also make great pass-along plants!

If you'd like to add some of these unique flowers to your garden, now is the time! Plant hurricane lilies in late summer or early fall in a sunny or lightly shaded spot that has moist, well-drained soil. The bulbs can be planted directly in a lawn for striking effect when they bloom, or they can be grouped together in beds.

Over time, the individual bulbs will grow into larger clumps that can be lifted and divided every several years to encourage flowering. Summer is the best time to divide clumps. However, be aware that recently divided or newly planted bulbs often won't flower for at least a year, if not longer. But don't let that discourage you from growing these truly unique flowers!

Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:
Shaina Spann,
4-H Agent



4-H@4 Meeting Again!

Kick-off the new 4-H Year with us! Gather your supplies and join us for 4-H@4 on September 4th! Each month this fall, 4-H@4 will walk youth through a project that can be completed at home. All activities use easy to find, household supplies. Topics include arts, science, service learning, cooking, and more!

For September's event you will need:

- 1 sheet of white paper
- 2-3 sheets of colored paper (light weight paper is best, but card stock can be used too)
- Scissors
- Tape
- Glue or glue stick
- 1 coin (optional)
- Markers (any colors)

[Sign up here!](#)

We hope to see you September 4th at 4:00 PM.

Enroll for the New 4-H Year

It's time to enroll for the 2020-2021 4-H Year! All participants showing and selling animals **MUST re-enroll by September 10th** so that their insurance is up to date.

We've Upgraded!

4-H Online is now 4-H Online 2.0! Families that already have profiles are in the new system, so no worries about refilling everything out! Login information remains the same as well.



[Enroll here!](#)

HOLIDAY COOKBOOK

The holidays will be upon us before we know it! Would 4-H members and families like to create a 2020 Baker County 4-H Holiday Cookbook? In the event we cannot come together in person, why not come together through food!? Please submit a favorite recipe with a story by 5:00pm October 30th so we can compile the recipes into a book.

[SUBMIT RECIPES HERE](#)

4-H NEEDS ASSESSMENT

We want to know your thoughts! We have created a survey, or needs assessment, to see what direction the 4-H program should be in over the coming months. Please click the button below to take the survey, all that enter their email/name will be entered into a drawing for some 4-H swag!

[Click here to take the 4-H needs assessment!](#)

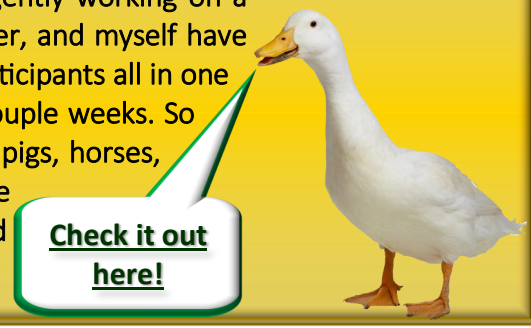
Points Updates

In an effort to relieve additional stress with everything that has been going on, the Livestock Leadership Team met and decided that all meeting points for the 2019-2020 4-H year will be forgiven. In addition, new families only need 2 points. Return families need 4 points (2 of which can come from the previous fair).

Remember to turn in the final project report and Clover Points due on September 10th.

NEW LIVESTOCK WEBPAGE

Since we have not been able to have in-person meetings. We have been diligently working on a webpage with information and resources. Our Agriculture Agent, Alicia Halbritter, and myself have been putting together ALL kinds of educational materials for livestock animal participants all in one place! Some sections are already live, we will be adding new materials every couple weeks. So be sure to check back! The page has content for rabbits, poultry, goats, cattle, pigs, horses, curricula, how-to's, and forms that you would need. Each animal specie will have pages with information and activities on breeds, nutrition, health, exhibiting, and more.



[Check it out here!](#)

Barnyard Bulletin

By:
Alicia Halbritter,
Agriculture Agent



Grazing Cool Season Forages

Bahia and Bermuda grass are the most predominant pasture grasses in Florida which allows for plenty of warm season forage production but leaves us short in the winter. The solution? Over seeding pastures with winter annuals that will produce forage while the perennials lay dormant. The first step is determining when your pastures are least active as this is when you will want the cool season forage to be most productive in order to fill in the gaps. The cost of over seeding can be compared to the money saved on purchasing hay for livestock as a supplemental feed, often it can be cheaper than providing hay/grain. More information here: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ag146>

Month	Forage Type
December-January	Oats, Rye, and Wheat (small grains)
February-March	Small grains, crimson clover, ryegrass
March-April	Small Grains, ryegrass, crimson clover, red arrowleaf clover, and white clover
April-May	Ryegrass, arrowleaf , white, and red clover

Choice of species and variety is extremely important based on the goals of the operation. Some species produce more forage mass, some fix nitrogen, etc.



Mixed stands can be beneficial for meeting multiple goals. A popular mix includes ryegrass, winter peas, and clovers.



Overseeding is generally done with a no-till planter. Broadcasting can work for some species.