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Forage News

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## Forage News [2014-04]

Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, University of Kentucky

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# FORAGE NEWS

For more forage information, visit our UK Forage Extension Website at: <http://www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage>

## April 2014

*Garry D. Lacefield and S. Ray Smith, Extension Forage Specialists • Christi Forsythe, Secretary*

### AFGC HONORS FORAGE LEGEND



The American Forage & Grassland Council honored Dr. John Baylor (16 September 1922-5 May 2013) at their Annual Conference in Memphis, Tennessee, January 12-14, 2014. John grew up on a New Jersey forage-livestock farm where his passion for "Forages" began. That passion persisted and grew over a life devoted to improvements of forage-livestock programs at the Local, State, National and International levels. Dr. Baylor spent his first career as Extension Forage Specialist at Pennsylvania State University where he developed a model forage program and started the first Pennsylvania Forage Council.

His second career was a leader in the Forage Seed Industry. He was the most widely recognized U.S. Forage worker having been a leader at the State, National, and International Forage events and organizations. Dr. Baylor has been recognized at the highest award levels including AFGC's highest honor, the Medallion Award. He was heavily involved with the National Hay Association, Atlantic Seedsmen, Certified Alfalfa Seed Council and was Chairman of the International Grassland Congress held in Lexington, Kentucky USA in 1981.

Dr. Baylor was founder and first President of the American Forage & Grassland Council and served in leadership roles continuously during his career. He was the AFGC Historian and wrote the "First 50 Years" in 1994. He recorded the AFGC Oral History in 2012.

Dr. Baylor was also the founder of the Forage & Grassland Foundation. The Foundation was started following the International Grassland Congress in 1989, with \$100,000 remaining after all bills were paid for the Congress. He served as the Foundation's first President and as Executive Director. He was elected for a four-year term on the board in 2011 and served until his death. To recognize his accomplishments and contributions, the Forage and Grassland Foundation started the "John E. Baylor Scholarship" during the AFGC Conference in Memphis. The first \$5,000 contribution to that scholarship was from the John Baylor Estate. The Foundation has agreed to match additional contributions during 2013 with the first scholarship to be awarded for 2014 Fall semester.

John married Henrietta Hauck on August 31, 1950. They have two daughters and two granddaughters. Mrs. Baylor, along with daughter Sue Colbath attended the tribute in Memphis. Concluding the tribute, Mrs. Baylor was presented with a framed certificate of appreciation and the AFGC Lifetime Member Award.

Although we officially said goodbye to Dr. John E. Baylor, his legacy, legend, influence, example, philosophies and untiring passion for forages will always remain. (SOURCE: Dr. Garry Lacefield, University of Kentucky and Tina Bowling, AFGC IN THE AFGC Forage Leader, February 2014)



L to R: Henrietta Baylor, Garry Lacefield, and John Baylor--Dr. Baylor presented with the Kentucky Public Service to Alfalfa Award in Cave City, KY at the 2010 Alfalfa Conference.

### SPRING KENTUCKY GRAZING SCHOOL

The spring Kentucky Grazing School will be held at the Woodford County Extension Office and C. Oran Little Research Center in Versailles May 21-22, 2014. It is co-sponsored by Master Grazer Educational Program, Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund, U.K. College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Kentucky Forage & Grassland Council. This two day program features the latest, practical information on "grazing" with both classroom and field activities. Registration is \$50 and includes all handout materials, grazing manual, breaks and lunch both days. The class is limited to the first 45 to sign up. To register make checks payable to the Kentucky Forage & Grassland Council and send to Jeff Lehmkuhler, 804 W.P. Garrigus Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40546-0215. For more information contact Jeff at 859-257-2853, e-mail [jeff.lehmkuhler@uky.edu](mailto:jeff.lehmkuhler@uky.edu). See <http://www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage> for the program.

### U.S. FARM ECONOMY OUTLOOK FOR 2014

- Global consumption of grains/oilseeds continues to grow in order to accommodate increasing global production.
- U.S. agricultural exports are expected to increase to a record \$142.6 billion in FY2014. This is in response to higher export volumes more than offsetting lower prices.
- China continues to account for a larger percentage of U.S. agricultural trade. China is now our number 1 agriculture export customer.
- U.S. corn use for ethanol will increase modestly in the near future, in response to higher blends of corn-based ethanol in the domestic market and additional ethanol exports.
- The ethanol industry will purchase around 35% of U.S. corn production for the foreseeable future, down from more than 40% in recent years, with approximately 1/3 of this corn transferred back to U.S. agriculture in the form of distiller's dried grain (DDGs) used for livestock feed.
- Despite increasing global grain production, global grain stocks remain relatively tight and, consequently, could result in noticeable up-side pressure on prices if significant supply shocks occur in major grain producing areas.
- Lower anticipated prices will cause U.S. crop acres to decline modestly (-0.9%) in 2014: U.S. corn acres (-3.5%), U.S. soybean acres (+3.9%), wheat (-1.2%).
- USDA projects the following crop prices for crop year 2014/15: corn (\$3.90/bu), soybeans (9.65/bu), and wheat (\$5.30/bu).
- Livestock remains the positive outlook for U.S. agriculture amidst tight supplies (e.g., cattle/calf numbers lowest since 1951), improved feed/price ratios, and expanding meat exports.
- Livestock prices are expected to remain near or above record high levels; steers (\$1.36/lb, +8%), hogs (\$0.63/lb, -2%), broilers (97.5 cents/lb, -2.2%), and milk (\$21.20/cwt, +6%).
- Food price inflation is expected to be 2.5% to 3.5%, which will be greater than the overall inflation rate.

For a full copy of the USDA Chief Economist's presentation on the U.S. farm economy, go to:

[http://usda.gov/oce/forum/2014\\_Speeches/Glauber\\_Speech.pdf](http://usda.gov/oce/forum/2014_Speeches/Glauber_Speech.pdf).

(SOURCE: Will Snell, Ag. Economic Policy Update, February 2014)

## USDA RELEASES PRELIMINARY 2012 CENSUS DATA

The USDA released a portion of the national and state 2012 US Census of Agriculture data on February 20, 2014, with the remaining data (including county-level data) due in May. The preliminary data reveals:

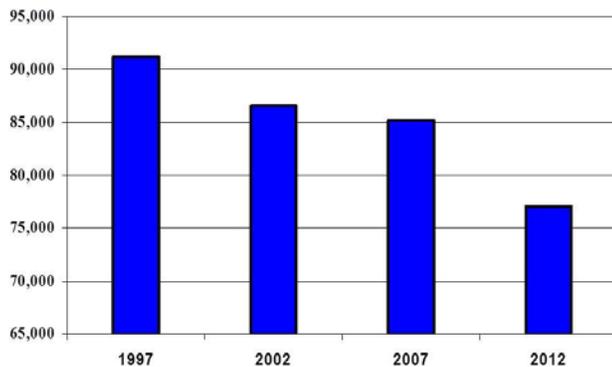
### United States

- The number of U.S. farms (still defined as \$1000 or more of sales) totals 2.1 million, down 4.3% from the 2007 Census of Agriculture.
- The average U.S. farm size increased from 418 acres in 2007 acres to 434 acres in 2012.
- The average U.S. farm market value of U.S. crops and livestock sold was up nearly 40% compared to 2007.
- The average age of the U.S. farmer was 58.3 years, up 1.2 years since 2007.
- The number of beginning farmers (less than 10 years of farming) was down almost 20% since the 2007 Census.

### Kentucky

- The number of farms in Kentucky totaled 77,064, down nearly 10% from the 85,260 farms reported in the 2007 Census of Agriculture.
- Kentucky's ranking fell from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> in terms of the largest number of farms among U.S. states.
- The average Kentucky farm was 169 acres in 2012 compared to 164 acres in 2007.
- The only farm size category to increase from the last census was the number of farms totaling more than 1,000 acres, which totaled 1,928 Kentucky farms in 2012 compared to 1,745 farms in 2007.
- The average market value of crops and livestock sold by Kentucky farms was \$65,755 in 2012, up 16% compared to 2007.
- 86% of Kentucky farms had less than \$50,000 of sales in 2012, with 1,837 farms having sales exceeding \$1,000,000.
- The average age of the principle operator for Kentucky farms was 57.6 years, with only the 65 and older categories increasing.
- The number of female operators totaled 8,100 compared to 9,110 in 2007.
- The number of beginning farmers (less than 10 years of farming) totaled 17,257, down 24% since the 2007 Census.

**Number of Kentucky Farms  
(Ag Census)**



For the entire report, go to

[http://agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2012/Preliminary\\_Report/Full\\_Report.pdf](http://agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2012/Preliminary_Report/Full_Report.pdf)  
(SOURCE: Will Snell, Ag. Economic Policy Update, February 2014)

### RED CLOVER SEED PER SQUARE FOOT AT VARYING SEEDING RATES.\*

Seeding Rates lbs/ac	Seed per square foot
4	25
6	37
8	50
10	62
12	75
15	94

\*Assumptions: Raw (non-coated) seed, 272,000 seeds per pound and uniform seed distribution.

## WEIGHT PER BUSHEL AND NUMBER OF SEED PER POUND OF SELECTED FORAGE CROPS.

Forage crop	Approx. lb/bu	Approx. no. of seed/lb
Alfalfa	60	227,000
Annual lespedeza	25	238,000
Annual ryegrass	24	224,000
Barley	48	14,000
Bermudagrass (hulled)	40	2,071,000
Chicory	60	349,000
Crimson clover	60	150,000
Foxtail millet	50	213,000
Hairy vetch	60	16,000
Kentucky bluegrass	21	1,440,000
Korean lespedeza (hulled)	59	238,000
Oats	32	16,000
Orchardgrass	14	416,000
Pearl millet	48	82,000
Perennial ryegrass	24	330,000
Rape	50	156,000
Red clover	60	272,000
Rye	56	18,000
Sericea lespedeza (hulled)	60	372,000
Sorghum	50	24,000
Sorghum-sudan	48	35,000
Striate lespedeza (Kobe)	25	200,000
Sudangrass	40	43,000
Switchgrass	55	280,000
Tall fescue	25	227,000
Timothy	45	1,152,000
Triticale	48	15,000
Wheat	60	11,000
White clover	60	768,000
White sweetclover	60	259,000

Source: Adapted from Southern Forages. 2007. Ball, D.M., C.S. Hoveland and G.D. Lacefield. IPNI, Norcross, GA.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 21-22 Kentucky Grazing School, Woodford County Extension Office, Versailles

SEPT 22-27 Mountain Ag Week, UK Robinson Center, Jackson

SEPT 25 Beef Bash, U.K. Research & Education Center, Princeton

OCT 23 15<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Grazing Conference, Western Kentucky University Expo Center, Bowling Green

### 2015

FEB 26 35<sup>th</sup> "Anniversary" Kentucky Alfalfa Conference, Cave City Convention Center, Cave City, KY

Garry D. Lacefield  
Extension Forage Specialist  
April 2014

### DO IT ANYWAY

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered; Forgive them anyway. If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; Be kind anyway. If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies; Succeed anyway. If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; Be honest and frank anyway. What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; Build anyway. If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; Be happy anyway. The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; Do good anyway. Give the world the best you've got anyway. You see, in the final analysis it is between you and God; It was never between you and them anyway.

- Mother Teresa