Forage Spokesman Information
Clayton Gerald runs a commercial hay farm in Hart County near Munfordville, Kentucky. His total farm size is 560 acres, 300 of which are leased. The focus of his operation is producing small square bales for the horse market. Clayton currently grows a range of forage species including 400 acres of alfalfa and alfalfa/orchardgrass and 150 acres timothy, orchardgrass, and teff. On average he puts up 70,000 small square bales a year. Clayton is one of best hay producers in the state and last year won the Charlie Schnitzler Producer Award at the 28th Annual Kentucky Alfalfa Conference. In his presentation Clayton will overview the storage facilities that he has constructed over the years on his hay operation. He will also explain the yield expectations he has for the farm each year, the input requirements for growing top quality horse hay, and Clayton will provide an overview of the forage quality expectations of his clients.
Brady Jarvis is a lifelong native of Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. He resides on the family farm with his wife Michelle and their four year old son Cayden. He and his dad Gary farm twenty acres of burley tobacco, 150 acres of hay and 140 acres of pasture. They have a 90 head cow calf operation which consists of 70 fall calving cows and 20 Spring Calving cows. Thirty six of these cattle are registered angus which he uses for producing breeding stock. He also owns and operates a lawn mowing service. Brady has completed the University of Kentucky Master Cattlemen program and is an active member in the Muhlenberg County Cattlemen’s Association. After attending a grazing and fencing field day hosted by the County Extension Service and reading an article about Winter Strategic Grazing authored by Kevin Laurent, Extension Associate for Livestock production, he and his dad decided to adopt the practice. The grazing practice enabled them to sell 150 rolls of hay that ordinarily they would have had to have for their herd. This was on the heels of the Spring freeze and drought of 2007. Realizing that grazing management pays dividends, Brady and his dad utilized rotational grazing this summer and highlighted this practice during the Cooperative Extension Service Field Day.