Groundbreaking for the Grain and Forage Center of Excellence is scheduled for March 15, 2018 at Princeton, KY.

The Grain and Forage Center of Excellence is a $30 million investment to focus on Intensive Agriculture and Water Quality. It was a vision developed in partnerships with growers and grower organizations. The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board (KADB) awarded the University of Kentucky $15 million in a grant to expand and renovate the Main Building at the Research and Education Center at Princeton, KY. The KADB grant is for three years. The University of Kentucky must match that grant with another $15 million over the next five years.

Kentucky has a climate unique in the United States for cattle, being the largest cattle state east of the Mississippi and being able to raise both warm season and cold season grasses. Our unique climate makes local understanding of producing forages essential to profitable cattle management. In addition, the integration of cattle back into row-cropping system will be a high priority for the newly established Center of Excellence.

The Kentucky climate is also unique for wheat production and a combination of university research, industry investment and producer ingenuity lead to the profitable wheat management system we have today.

That same local approach occurred with no-tillage corn production and then to soybeans. This is a practice now used around the world, but was developed to address challenges originally unique to Kentucky.

The Kentucky Corn Growers purchased 300 acres adjacent to the current facilities. UK was leasing 60 acres of that property from the previous owner. UK is leasing the entire property from the Kentucky Corn Growers. The farmer who was leasing the difference before is still managing the 240 acres for at least two more years.

The University of Kentucky has been a leader working with producers to develop sustainable agricultural practices. Partnering with our citizens, the University of Kentucky will help identify how best to protect our water quality and improve agricultural systems for generations to come.
Please join the University of Kentucky and the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council for the 37th Annual Kentucky Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference. This day long conference focuses on maximizing alfalfa production and utilization.

**When:** Thursday, February 22nd, 2018
8:00 am - 3:30 pm (CST)

**Where:** Cave City Convention Center
502 Mammoth Cave Street
Cave City, KY 42127

**Registration:** www.KYAlfalfa2018.eventbrite.com
Before February 15th: $30
After February 15th: $40
Add KFGC membership for $10 more!

For those without internet access, please send check made out to “KFGC”.
KY Alfalfa Conference
N-222C Ag. Science North
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40546-0091

**Sponsorship**
Exhibit booths: $250 - includes one registration
www.KYAlfalfa2018.eventbrite.com
Schedule of Events

8:00 (CST)  Registration and Exhibits

8:45  Welcome
Dr. Ray Smith, University of Kentucky

9:00  Fine tuning varietal selection for the Mid-South
Dr. Ray Smith, University of Kentucky

9:20  Getting off to a good start: Alfalfa Establishment
Dr. Chris Teutsch, University of Kentucky

9:40  Fertilizing high producing alfalfa stands
Dr. Edwin Ritchey, University of Kentucky

10:00 Break and Exhibits

10:30  An integrated approach to weed control in alfalfa production systems
Dr. J.D. Green, University of Kentucky

10:50  An integrated approach to pest management in alfalfa production systems
Dr. Lee Townsend, University of Kentucky

11:10  An integrated approach to disease management in alfalfa production systems
Dr. Kiersten Wise, University of Kentucky

11:30  Harvesting quality alfalfa
Dr. Garry Lacefield, Professor Emeritus, University of Kentucky

11:50 Discussion

12:00 Lunch

12:50 Alfalfa Awards and Silent Auction Results

1:15  How Growing Degree Days affects alfalfa frost damage
Dr. Matt Dixon, University of Kentucky

1:35  Mechanization to optimize alfalfa harvest efficiency
Industry Representative

2:05  Emerging export markets for high quality alfalfa hay
Tom Keene, University of Kentucky

2:25  The future of alfalfa: Understanding GMO traits and their impact on production and marketing
Industry representative

3:05  Discussion and Survey

3:30 Adjourn
News Release

Forage and Grazing Conferences Merge for Springfield Event in February

Planners of the annual Southwest Missouri Spring Forage Conference and the annual Heart of America Grazing Conference have partnered to present a two-day event February 26-27 at University Plaza Hotel in Springfield, Missouri.

Monday afternoon features four speakers who will focus on ways to improve soil health on grasslands. A social, trade show and evening dinner will follow. The dinner speaker will be Kentucky Forage Specialist Garry Lacefield.

Tuesday will offer participants the opportunity to attend several 45-minute breakout sessions focusing on forage and livestock management. The sessions will be offered throughout the day. Ranching for Profit School Instructor Dave Pratt will speak at the noon luncheon. His topic is “Farming and Ranching is a Business.”

The conference will include a trade show during which representatives of agricultural businesses and organizations will be available to discuss their products and services. Potential exhibitors or sponsors should contact Nathan Witt at 417-451-1007 ext. 3.

This year marks the 34th annual Southwest Missouri Spring Forage Conference and the 16th conference of the Heart of America Grazing Conference, which rotates among Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, and Missouri.

Participants can find more information about the speakers, costs, agenda, attendance options, and how to register at www.springforageconference.com. Participants may also contact the Laclede County USDA Office at (417) 532-6305, Ext. 101.

###

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider, Employer and Lender
Toxic tall fescue reduces livestock weight gains and lowers reproductive performance. This one day workshop will give you the tools and information needed to remove toxic tall fescue and replace it with novel tall fescue varieties. Speakers include local producers, company representatives and researchers from across the country.

**Topics Include:**
- Fescue Toxicosis: Symptoms and Causes
- Economics
- Establishment and First Year Management
- Seed Testing
- Long-Term Pasture Management
- Company Products
- Incentives
- Producer Panel

Register at [www.2018UKYNovelTallFescue.eventbrite.com](http://www.2018UKYNovelTallFescue.eventbrite.com)

Before March 1 — $60/person | After March 1 — $75/person
Includes lunch, refreshments & proceedings

Morning Session - Bluegrass Stockyards 4561 Iron Works Pike, Lexington
Afternoon Session - UK Spindletop Research Farm 3250 Iron Works Pike, Lexington
### Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Welcome, Dr. Ray Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:10</td>
<td>Tall Fescue Toxicosis: Symptoms and Causes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Craig Roberts - University of Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:35</td>
<td>Profitable Animal Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Jeff Lehmkuhler - University of Kentucky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Break and Demo: Endophytes Under Microscope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Carolyn Young - Noble Research Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:20</td>
<td>Establishment &amp; First Year Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Jimmy Henning - University of Kentucky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Calibrating a Seed Drill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Chris Teutsch - University of Kentucky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:40</td>
<td>Producer Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Darrel Franson - Producer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Seed Quality and Endophyte Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nick Hill - Agrinotics &amp; Chris Agee - Pennington Seed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15</td>
<td>Lunch and Microscope Demo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00</td>
<td>Management: Novels and Toxic Paddocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Ray Smith - University of Kentucky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45</td>
<td>Tour Plots at UK Research Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gene Olson &amp; Dr. Ray Smith - University of Kentucky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00</td>
<td>Break and Microscope Demo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15</td>
<td>Company Product Highlights:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justin Burns - Barenbrug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jerome Magnuson - DLF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mark Thomas - Mountain View Seed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chris Agee - Pennington Seed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00</td>
<td>Cost-Share Incentive Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adam Jones - USDA NRCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15</td>
<td>Producer Panel: On-Farm Success with Novel Tall Fescue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Thomas (Madison Co.) and Patrick Patterson (Pulaski Co.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>ADJOURN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CCA credits have been requested.