



Proceedings of the 39th Annual Kentucky Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference

Presented by:

Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council
University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food, and
Environment



Thursday, February 20, 2020

Hardin County Extension Office
111 Opportunity Way
Elizabethtown, KY



Editors: Dr. Ray Smith and Christi Forsythe

Schedule of Events

- 7:30 (EST) **Registration and Exhibits**
- 8:30 **Welcome and overview for the day**
Dr. Ray Smith, University of Kentucky
- 9:00 **Getting the full benefit of your lime/fertilizer dollar**
Dr. John Grove, University of Kentucky
- 9:45 **Smarter alfalfa weevil management**
Dr. Ric Bessin, University of Kentucky
- 10:15 **Break, Exhibits and Silent Auction**
- 10:45 **Moving past the routine: Precision management for alfalfa and hay crops**
Dr. Josh McGrath, University of Kentucky
- 11:15 **Integrated management of alfalfa diseases**
Dr. Kiersten Wise, University of Kentucky
- 11:45 **Lunch, Alfalfa awards, Silent auction results**
- 1:15 **Updates on an online alfalfa management tool under development**
Presented by Dr. Ray Smith for Travis Howle, Ballard County alfalfa producer
- 1:30 **What's new in alfalfa weed control**
Dr. J.D. Green, University of Kentucky
- 2:00 **Advances in hay mechanization**
David O'Toole, McHale Machinery
- 2:45 **Making a profit with a cash hay alfalfa operation—Integrating all the pieces**
Clayton Gerald, Hart County hay producer and KFGC President
- 3:30 **Final Comments and Survey Collection**
- 3:45 **Adjourn**

Foreword

Thanks to the leadership of Dr. Garry Lacefield, the Kentucky Alfalfa Conference was initiated 39 years ago. The University of Kentucky and the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council are excited to continue this tradition and we have now expanded the conference to include all stored forages. At the “KY Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference” our priority is to continue to provide a high-quality educational event each year; we challenge you to consider the content of the proceedings and the discussions of the day in light of your overall forage program. It is our hope you will go away with at least one idea or practice that you can implement to improve your overall program.

This year’s program focuses on practical management of alfalfa and grass hay stands. One of the issues that we have seen during recent years is low fertility levels on numerous hay stands around the state. High fertilizer prices have influenced this trend, but quite simply many hay producers are not replacing the nutrients that they remove in their hay crops. We will have two presentations from UK Soil Scientists on fertilizer management for high producing hay crops. UK professors from the Entomology and Plant Pathology department will highlight how to manage to reduce insect and disease damage in hay crops. There will be an important presentation on new products and management options for alfalfa weed control. A company rep and a successful KY hay producer will overview equipment options and they describe how to put all the pieces together for a successful cash hay operation. Most importantly, the Alfalfa and Stored Forage Conference will bring together successful hay producers from around the state to share ideas and management options that work on their hay operation.

On behalf of the program committee, I want to thank the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council for their continued support of this program. Special thanks the speakers for providing their presentations and papers for the proceedings. This meeting would not be possible without the support of the many exhibitors as well; please take a moment to visit with them during the breaks.

Special thanks to Ms. Sydney Beidleman for program logistics and collecting the proceedings papers and to Mrs. Christi Forsythe for editing and printing the proceedings.

I would encourage you to stay up-to-date with the latest forage research in Kentucky by subscribing to our online newsletter, Forage News. Visit <http://forages.ca.uky.edu/> to sign up for the newsletter. In addition, the UK Forage Website provides a wealth of publications and other resources to improve your forage management.



Dr. Ray Smith, Program Committee
Dr. Jimmy Henning, Program Committee
Dr. Chris Teutsch, Program Committee
KFGC Board, Program Recommendations

Table of Contents

	Page
Foreword	
Getting the Full Benefit of Your Lime/Fertilizer Dollar	1
Dr. John Grove	
Smarter Alfalfa Weevil Management	6
Dr. Ric Bessin	
Moving Past the Routine: Precision Management for Alfalfa and Hay Crops	9
Dr. Josh McGrath	
Integrated Management of Alfalfa Diseases	13
Dr. Kiersten Wise	
Updates on an Online Alfalfa Management Tool Under Development	16
Dr. Ray Smith for Travis Howle	
What’s New in Alfalfa Weed Control?	21
Dr. J.D. Green	
Making a Profit with a Cash Hay Alfalfa Operation – Integrating all the Pieces . .	27
Clayton Gerald	
Notes	38
2019 Alfalfa Report	39
2019 Long-Term Summary of Kentucky Forage Variety Trials	47
Alfalfa Variety Ratings 2020	75

Save the Date!

Novel Tall Fescue Renovation Workshop

March 19, 2020

UK Veterinary Diagnostic Lab
Lexington, KY

<https://tallfescueky2020.eventbrite.com>

Kentucky Fencing Schools

April 14, 2020

Barren County Extension Office
Glasgow, KY

www.2020KYFencingSchool.eventbrite.com

April 16, 2020

Grand Rivers Community Center
Grand Rivers, KY

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-fencing-school-grand-rivers-ky-tickets-91672983361>

May 19, 2020

Kentucky State University
Frankfort, KY

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-fencing-school-frankfort-ky-tickets-91668798845>

May 21, 2020

Wolfe County Extension Office
Campton, KY

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-fencing-school-campton-ky-tickets-91673723575>

Kentucky Grazing School

April 21-22, 2020

U.K. Research & Education Center
Princeton, KY

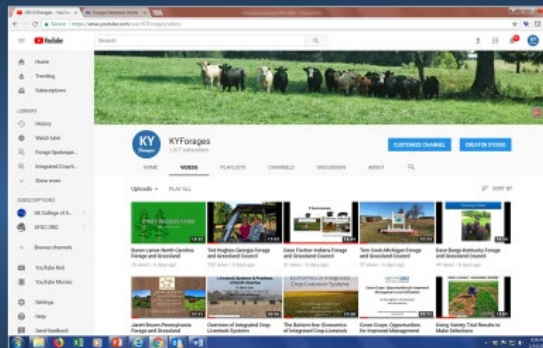
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-spring-kentucky-grazing-school-tickets-89874580289>

UK Forages Website-NEW & IMPROVED



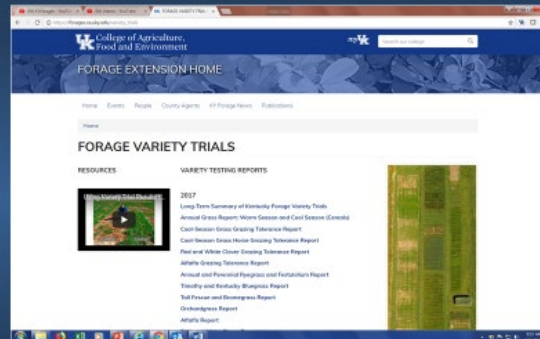
<https://forages.ca.uky.edu/>

KYForages YouTube



<https://www.youtube.com/c/KYForages>

UK Variety Testing Program



https://forages.ca.uky.edu/variety_trials