



HORTICULTURE



January/ February 2024 Newsletter



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LETTER FROM THE AGENT

I hope everyone had a great holiday season.

We have some great programs coming up this year!

Macy Fauns

Horticulture Agent



KEEPING YOUR HOUSEPLANTS HAPPY DURING WINTERTIME

RACHEL RUDOLP, HORTICULTURE ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
PUBLISHED ON NOV. 9, 2023



Even though your houseplants do not have to deal with the cold like your garden does, you should still change how you care for them this season, ensuring they stay healthy and continue to grow well. Following these tips, your leafy friends will bring lushness and natural beauty into your home, even in winter.

Decrease watering

- In general, less light means less water. Plants need less water in the winter because they don't get as much sunlight, compared to spring and summer. To test soil moisture, push your finger into the potting soil at least one inch deep. If the soil is dry, water thoroughly. It is better to water plants well less often than water just a little bit every day. In the winter, it is possible that you will only need to water once every two to three weeks.

Pay attention to the Sun

- If possible, move your plants closer to the windows. If they're on the ground, put them on a plant stand. Every week or two, rotate the pots to ensure all sides of the plants get some sunlight.

It's okay if a few leaves fall off

- Plants outside over the summer will probably lose some leaves when they come back inside. This is normal because they are getting used to the lower light levels inside. It's normal for plants that stay inside all year to lose a few leaves as winter approaches. This is just their way of getting ready for less light.

Avoid temperature extremes

Keep plants away from cold drafts, radiators and hot air vents. Sudden hot or cold drafts can kill plants, stress them out, or dry them out.

Put the fertilizer on hold

- Winter is a time for most houseplants to rest. They don't need fertilizer because they usually aren't actively growing. In the fall, stop fertilizing and start back up again in the spring when plants get more sunlight and start growing again.

Scan for pests

- If you are bringing plants inside for the winter, be sure to check the leaves, stems and soil surface for pests. Wipe leaves down with a wet cloth or remove pests by hand before bringing the plants inside. Small bugs that feed on sap, like aphids and scales, tend to show up more in the winter. Another common winter pest is the spider mite which likes warm, dry places to live. When watering, flip the leaves over and look at the undersides and along the stems. If you find bugs, use your fingers or damp cloth to remove them. Neem oil and insecticidal soap may be options for managing houseplant pests. With any product, be sure to read the entire label for application instructions and precautions.

Increase the humidity

- In the winter, the air inside our heated homes is often drier. Most houseplants, especially those from tropical areas, do best when the humidity is between 40 and 50%. However, in the winter, most homes have humidity levels between 10 and 20%. Putting plants close together is an easy way to make the air around them more humid. Plants can also be put on trays with pebbles and water to make the air more humid. To keep the roots from rotting, pot bottoms should be above the water. As the water evaporates, it makes the air around your houseplants more humid. Keep plants away from vents with blowing air.





**MASON COUNTY
EXTENSION OFFICE
PLANT ORDER
2024**

All plant orders due February 14th

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____



| Item | Quantity <i>(Bundle of 25 Plants)</i> | Unit Price | Total Price |
|-------------------------|--|------------|-------------|
| Seascape Strawberries | | \$7.00 | |
| Earliglow Strawberries | | \$7.00 | |
| Flavorfest Strawberries | | \$7.00 | |

**** IF ORDERING BLUEBERRIES, IT IS RECOMMENDED TO PURCHASE TWO DIFFERENT VARIETIES FOR POLLINATION****

| Item | Quantity <i>(per plant/crown)</i> | Unit Price | Total |
|--|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------|
| Jewel Black Raspberry | | \$12.00 | |
| Chandler Blueberry | | \$12.00 | |
| Duke Blueberry | | \$12.00 | |
| Triple Crown Blackberry | | \$12.00 | |
| Jersey Knight Asparagus | | \$2.00 | |
| Orders payment is required by February 14th, 2024 Make checks payable to: Mason County Extension Office | | Total Due | |

Payment Information:
Amount Paid: _____
Date: _____
Received by: _____
Check no. _____ or Cash _____

**WE WILL CONTACT YOU WHEN ORDERS ARE READY FOR PICK-UP.
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CALL (606) 564-6808**



BEEKEEPING

Hosted by the Buffalo Trace County Area Cooperative Extension Service Offices

- **JANUARY 11: 6PM**
BEEKEEPING 101
- **JANUARY 18: 6PM**
HONEY PROCESSING & EQUIPMENT
- **JANUARY 25: 6PM**
PHENOLOGY FOR BEEKEEPERS



USE THE QR CODE OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL OFFICE TO REGISTER:

- BRACKEN COUNTY: (606) 735-2141
- FLEMING COUNTY: (606) 845-4641
- LEWIS COUNTY: (606) 796-2732
- MASON COUNTY: (606) 564-6808
- ROBERTSON COUNTY: (606) 724-5796

ALL SESSIONS ARE VIA ZOOM: A LINK WILL BE SENT TO REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS THE WEEK PRIOR TO THE CLASS & THE DAY BEFORE



REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 10TH

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English.
University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

LUNCH & LEARN

HOUSE PLANTS 101 JANUARY 23, 2024

12:00 P.M.
Mason County
Extension Office



FREE HOUSE PLANT



PLEASE CALL TO REGISTER
606-564-6808

**Cooperative
Extension Service**

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development

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Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

ALL ABOUT VANILLA!



Join us for a class to learn about vanilla, how to make vanilla extract, and even try a couple of different recipes that involve it!

PLEASE CALL (606)564-6808
TO REGISTER, DEADLINE IS
JANUARY 16TH!



25 January, 10:00 AM



800 US-68, Maysville
KY 41056

If you want to make vanilla extract, you must bring at least 8 oz of either Vodka or Bourbon!



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Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
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SHARPENING GARDEN TOOLS

This program will be instructed by a Master Gardener.
With the opportunity of hands on instruction.

FEBRUARY 12, 2024
MASON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
1:30 P.M.

 **Martin-Gatton**
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment



**Kentucky Extension
Master Gardener**



**Cooperative
Extension Service**

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

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BEESWAX



LEARN THE MANY USES OF BEESWAX

Join us to learn some of beneficial uses for
beeswax from food wrap to candles.



NOON
FEBRUARY 20, 2024

LUNCH &
LEARN

AT MASON COUNTY
EXTENSION OFFICE

CALL TO REGISTER



606-564-6808





UK Cooperative Extension Service

APPLE TREE GRAFTING/PRUNING WORKSHOP

HOSTED BY THE BUFFALO TRACE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICES

MARCH 9, 2024

8:30AM- 2PM @ FLEMING COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
1384 ELIZAVILLE RD, FLEMINGSBURG, KY

TOPICS:

- GRAFTING & APPLE VARIETIES
- DISEASE & INSECT MANAGEMENT
- PRUNING: HANDS-ON DEMO @SMS



**PLEASE REGISTER BY:
MARCH 1ST**



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Agriculture and Natural Resources
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MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

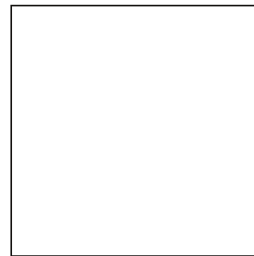
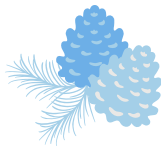
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University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40506



Mason County
800 US HWY 68

Maysville, KY 41056

Return Service Requested



Jalapeño Poppers

Servings:16 Serving Size:1

Ingredients:

- 4 ounces reduced fat cream cheese
- 1 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 3/4 cup shredded reduced fat mozzarella cheese
- 8 large jalapeño peppers
- 8 pieces, thinly sliced bacon, cut in half

Directions:

1. **Preheat oven to 425 degrees F.**
2. **In a small bowl, mix together the cream cheese, Parmesan cheese, garlic powder and mozzarella cheese.**
3. **Wash peppers and cut off stems.**
4. **Cut peppers lengthwise to make 16 halves. You may want to wear plastic gloves while handling hot peppers.**
5. **Scrape out the seeds and membrane of each pepper.**
6. **Stuff each pepper half with the cream cheese mixture and wrap each stuffed pepper with a half piece of bacon.**
7. **Lightly grease a broiler pan or pan with a rack. This will allow any grease to fall away from the poppers.**
8. **Bake for 20 minutes or until poppers are hot and juicy and the bacon is browned.**

Nutrition facts per serving: 60 calories; 4g fat; 2.5g saturated fat; 5mg cholesterol; 180mg sodium; 1g carbohydrate; 0g fiber; 1g sugars; 5g protein.



Source: Plate it up! Kentucky Proud Project.