

HORTICULTURE INSIGHTS

MASON COUNTY



Plant of the month:

Asparagus

thrives in soil that is well-drained and slightly alkaline. It does best in areas with full sun and should be planted in deep soil to accommodate its long root system, which can grow up to 6 feet deep.



This Issue

Program Flyer 2-6

Tree order form 7-8

Spring Garden Tilling

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Scale Check Flyer 10

Note From Agent

Hello Gardeners!

This winter has certainly been a tough one, and we know everyone is ready to feel the warmth and watch our gardens thrive once again.

Stop by the Mason County Extension Office to grab your copy of our Home Gardening Publication and pick up some seeds to help get your garden started. Whether you're planting veggies, flowers, or herbs, we've got everything you need to prepare for the upcoming season.

Let's get ready to grow!

Macy Fawns

Horticulture Agent



Seed Library

Stop by the Mason CO Extension
office for FREE seeds!



March 13th - April 11th

M-F 8:00-4:30, Closed 12:00-1:00

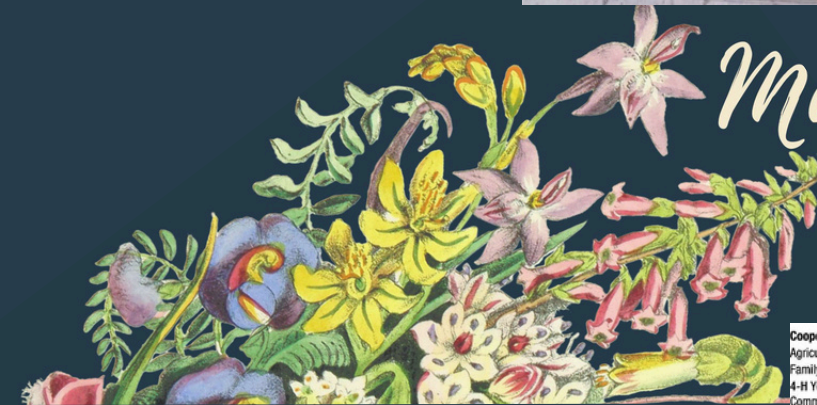
(While supplies last)

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

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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notice





Martin-Gatton
 College of Agriculture,
 Food and Environment
Department of Horticulture

Apple Grafting

Free



**Ready to grow your apple tree skills?
 Don't miss the Apple Tree Grafting/Pruning Workshop
 hosted by
 Mason County Horticulture Agent Macy Fawns**

**March 10th 2:00 p.m.
 Mason County Extension Office
 800 Us Hwy 68
 Maysville, Ky 41056**

**For More Information
 606-564-6808**

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
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 4-H Youth Development
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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



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

BACKYARD APPLE & PEAR TREE CARE



MONDAY, MARCH 17

6:00PM

VIA ZOOM OR **WATCH PARTY**

*CONTACT YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION OFFICE TO SEE IF A
WATCH PARTY IS OFFERED*



**CALL: (606) 845-4641
OR USE THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER**

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: 3/14/25

**Cooperative
Extension Service**

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2025 FARMERS MARKET EDUCATION PROGRAM

HOSTED BY THE BUFFALO TRACE COUNTY AREA UK COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE



6:00PM

AT FLEMING COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
OR VIA ZOOM OR ****WATCH PARTY****

****Check local office to verify watch party option****

- **FEBRUARY 18**
PRODUCE BEST PRACTICES TRAINING
- **MARCH 25**
SENIOR/WIC FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM TRAINING
- **APRIL 8**
HOMEBASED PROCESSOR DO'S & DON'TS
- **APRIL 29**
PARTNERING GROUPS-HOW THEY CAN HELP

REGISTER BY: FEBRUARY 14TH

USE THE QR CODE OR CONTACT
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





LUNCH AND LEARN

UK Cooperative
Extension Service
Mason County

STARTING TRANSPLANTS FOR GARDEN

**MASON COUNTY
EXTENSION OFFICE**

April 3, 2025

Lunch Served at Noon

Program will start at 12:15

\$10.00

**Must Prepay to register by
March 27th**

**Cooperative
Extension Service**

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

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Lexington, KY 40506

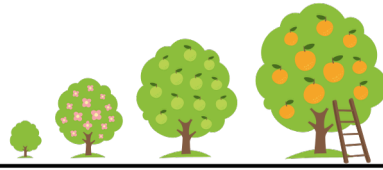


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with prior notification.

2025 FRUIT TREE SALE



Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment



ORDER FORM

NO: _____ DATE: _____

CUSTOMER: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ EMAIL: _____

ITEM	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
APPLE: CRIMSONCRISP		\$25.00	
APPLE: RUBYRUSH		\$25.00	
APPLE: MOSAIC™		\$25.00	
PEAR: HARROW SWEET		\$25.00	
PEAR: SHENANDOAH		\$25.00	
PEAR: SUNRISE		\$25.00	
LIMITED TREES AVAILABLE			

NOTES _____

GRAND TOTAL _____

TAXES INCLUDED IN PRICE _____

**Mason County
Extension Service**

**800 US Highway
Maysville, KY**

606-564-6808

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APPLES

The CrimsonCrisp will pollinate the mosaic and rubyrush and the mosaic and rubyrush will pollinate the crimsoncrisp – so if someone purchasing trees that does not already have apple trees – they will want to purchase 2 different ones to ensure pollination. The Crimsoncrisp does not do well pollinating early blooming varieties, so keep

that in mind when thinking about pollinating trees that you may already have.

CRIMSONCRISP®

CRIMSONCRISP® IS MEDIUM IN SIZE WITH A VERY ATTRACTIVE CRIMSON RED COLOR OVER 95% OF THE FRUIT SURFACE. CRIMSONCRISP® HAS A VERY FIRM, CRISP TEXTURE WITH A TART, COMPLEX FLAVOR. THE TREE IS VERY GROWER FRIENDLY WITH A SPREADING HABIT, FRUITING THROUGHOUT THE TWO- AND THREE-YEAR OLD BRANCHES. THE FRUIT MATURES IN MID-SEASON AND WILL KEEP IN COLD STORAGE FOR SIX MONTHS. CRIMSONCRISP® IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF PURDUE RESEARCH FOUNDATION.

RUBYRUSH™

AN EXCITING NEW RELEASE FROM THE APPLE BREEDING PROGRAM AT RUTGERS UNIVERSITY/ NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION(NJAES). THIS SELECTION IS A GOLDRUSH X ENTERPRISE CROSS SELECTED FOR ITS SCAB-RESISTANT TRAITS. RUBYRUSH™ ALSO EXHIBITS EXCELLENT RESISTANCE TO FIRE BLIGHT AND CEDAR APPLE RUST. THE FRUIT IS JUICY AND AROMATIC WITH A DESIRABLE CRISP TEXTURE. THE TREE IS VIGOROUS AND SHOULD BE THINNED TO AVOID BIENNIAL BEARING.

MOSAIC™

MOSAIC™ IS A NEW SCAB-RESISTANT SELECTION OUT OF THE CIV BREEDING PROGRAM IN ITALY. IT CAN BE PICKED GREEN LIKE GRANNY SMITH, OR IF YOU LET IT HANG, IT WILL TURN SOLID YELLOW AND WILL HANG VERY LATE INTO THE SEASON WHILE STILL MAINTAINING ITS FIRMNESS. IT CONSISTENTLY PRODUCES HIGH YIELDS, AND IT STORES WELL, EVEN IN REGULAR COLD STORAGE. LATE-SEASON HARVESTED MOSAIC™ HAVE

MAINTAINED THEIR FIRMNESS THROUGH MARCH IN REGULAR COLD STORAGE.

IMPORTANT NOTE: MOSAIC™ FRUIT CAN DEVELOP A STRONG BLUSH ON THE SUN-EXPOSED SIDE, ESPECIALLY IN YEARS WITH COOLER TEMPERATURES.

PEARS

Any combination of the pears will pollinate one another.

HARROW SWEET

A LATE-SEASON PEAR DEVELOPED BY THE HARROW RESEARCH STATION IN ONTARIO, CANADA, HARROW SWEET RIPENS APPROXIMATELY THREE WEEKS AFTER BARTLETT. THIS VARIETY HAS SHOWN VERY GOOD RESISTANCE TO FIRE BLIGHT. THE FRUIT SIZE AND APPEARANCE ARE SIMILAR TO THAT OF BARTLETT; HOWEVER, HARROW SWEET DOES DEVELOP AN ATTRACTIVE BLUSH. TREES SHOULD BE THINNED TO MAINTAIN FRUIT SIZE AND AVOID BIENNIAL BEARING.

SHENANDOAH

ANOTHER RELEASE FROM USDA AND OSU, SHENANDOAH HARVESTS APPROXIMATELY THREE WEEKS AFTER BARTLETT. FRUIT SIZE IS LARGE WITH TRADITIONAL SUB-ACID PEAR FLAVOR. BLIGHT RESISTANCE IS GOOD AND SIMILAR TO THAT OF SECKEL. SHENANDOAH STORES VERY WELL FOR UP TO FIVE MONTHS WITHOUT BREAKING DOWN.

SUNRISE

A DISEASE-RESISTANT PEAR INTRODUCED BY USDA-ARS AND OSU, SUNRISE HAS SHOWN IMPRESSIVE RESISTANCE TO FIRE BLIGHT. THE FRUIT COLOR IS YELLOW, OFTEN FINISHING WITH A SLIGHT BLUSH AND VERY LITTLE RUSSET. SUNRISE HARVESTS TWO WEEKS BEFORE BARTLETT AND WILL STORE FOR TWO TO THREE MONTHS.

SPRING GARDEN TILLING

SOURCE: RAY TACKETT, UK EXTENSION HORTICULTURE AGENT



Home gardeners might be experiencing “spring fever” with the warmer temperatures and in a rush to do spring tilling. But keep in mind, the ground is still wet from a recent snowfall and a lot of rain. Don’t till the ground too early and potentially damage the very structure of your garden soil that could last for years to come. Tilling your garden while it is still wet can destroy valuable soil structure. Soil structure describes the arrangement of the solid parts of the soil and the pore space located between them.

Once that soil structure has been destroyed, it is not easily re-established. The pore spacing is critical for overall plant health and root development. Soil that has been tilled when wet will often form soil “clods” that can give you problems later on and can be difficult to deal with. In addition, foot traffic on wet soil can do as much damage in some cases as tilling when the soil is wet.

Also, if your soil contains even a moderate amount of clay, tilling with the right moisture content is even more important. One way to do a moisture check is a quick “squeeze test” to determine if you can till the soil. Take a handful of soil and squeeze it into a ball in your hand. If pressure from your fingertips causes the ball to crumble, the soil content should be good for tilling. Another option is to drop the soil ball from about waist high.

As you might expect, if the ball shatters when dropped, it may be dry enough to work the soil without destroying the structure.

If you plan on adding soil amendments such as compost, it is good to work those into your soil early in the season. Be sure to blend any amendments thoroughly into the soil with a shovel or spading fork. Hand mixing in smaller areas is sometimes a better option than tilling compost into the soil with a rototiller. These warm, sunny spring days can be the best opportunity to work the compost into your soil. It’s important to remember that compost that has been sitting on top of your garden as a mulch has been insulating the soil too. The insulation effect can keep the soil from warming up and drying out. Mixing that compost into the soil will help speed up the warming process and could allow you to get plants into the ground sooner.



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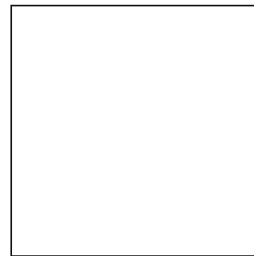
Mason County

800 US HWY 68

Maysville, KY 41056

Return Service

Requested



Scale Check



APRIL 1ST, 2024

Bring your scale into the Mason Co Extension office By
April 1st, no later than 4:00 P.M.

KY Dept of Ag will check scales and certify those eligible.

