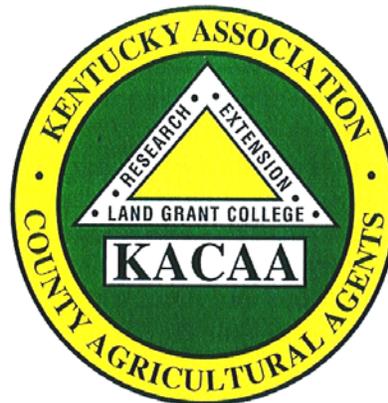


**KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS**



**Annual Conference
Banquet**

July 10th, 2014

**Kentucky Dam Village State Park
Gilbertsville, Kentucky**

KACAA 2014 Annual Banquet

Menu

Dinner Buffet

Roasted Round of Beef
Roasted Pork Loin
Roasted Red new Potatoes
Country Green Beans
Country Corn
Yeast Rolls

Desserts

Banana Pudding
Chocolate Cake

Beverages

Iced Tea
Soft Drinks
Water
Coffee

KACAA 2014 Annual Banquet

Welcome

Tom Miller, President

Invocation

Dinner

Introductions

Tom Miller, President

Recognition of Sponsors

Greetings

*Dean Nancy Cox, Dean and Director
UK College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment*

*Dr. Jimmy Henning, Associate Dean for Extension
& Director, Cooperative Extension Service*

*Dr. Gary Palmer, Assistant Director
Agriculture & Natural Resources*

*Josh Powell, Becks Hybrids
Erin Bragg and Jennifer Ferris, Mid-America Farm Credit*

AA & DSA Awards

Presented by Jason Phillips

Communication Awards

Presented by Greg Drake

Professional Excellence Awards

Presented by Don Sorrell

Extension Program Awards

Presented by Jay Hettmansperger

Special KACAA Awards

Ag Awareness and Appreciation Award

Presented by Traci Missun

Extra Effort Award

Presented by Jason Phillips

Service to Agriculture Award

Presented by Tom Miller, Curt Judy, Chuck Flowers

Outstanding Specialist Awards

Presented by Darrell Simpson, Curtis Dame, Shane Bogle

Life Members Memorial Reading

Presented by Curt Judy

Closing Comments

Tom Miller, KACAA President

AA Awards

Daniel Wilson – 7 Years of Service

Daniel's achievements include being one of the editors and contributors on the Kentucky Extension Equine Calendar. His implemented programming includes Fencing, Hay Wrapping/Testing, All Star Dads, Bee-Keeping, Vegetable/Rootstock and a Weed Science Program which his producers received free herbicides for graduating. He has also received grants to build a new permanent local Farmers Market and a local USDA inspected meat processing facility that is the first business in the Wolfe/Morgan County Agriculture Industrial Park.

Shane Bogle – 9 Years of Service

Shane Bogle has been the Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources in Caldwell County, Kentucky for the past 9 years. Since 2004 the Caldwell County Extension Service Agriculture program has been dedicated to delivering non-biased research based information to the community to increase farm revenue and improve quality of life. Although the total program has been his focus, major emphasis has been on equine and forage production as well as forest stewardship

DSA Awards

Lori Bowling – 16 Years of Service

Lori is the Horticulture Agent in her county with a thriving Master Gardener program. Not only is there a regular Master Gardener program but also a program in the Federal Correctional Institution which is able to certify participants to help get them ready for the workforce upon release. It also is responsible for a community garden where the inmates raise approximately 40,000lbs of produce annually to feed those less fortunate in our community fresh produce.

Bryce Roberts – 16 Years of Service

In his 16 years of service, Bryce has seen the population of Spencer County more than triple and that has brought challenges, not only with the loss of productive agricultural land, but also an increase in small and diverse operations. He has been active in KACAA, serving as chairman of Communications Awards and Program Recognition Council, Public Relations Director, and currently is the KACAA 3rd Vice President. He is a 2006 AA recipient

Communication Awards

Audio Recordings - Curtis Dame, Hopkins County/District 7

Published Photo & Caption - Eric Baker, Estill County/District 4

Program Promotional Piece - Amanda Sears, Madison Co/District 4

Personal Column - Amanda Sears, Madison County/District 4

Feature Story - Joanna Coles, Warren County/ District 6

Newsletter, Individual - Amanda Sears, Madison County/District 4

Newsletter, Team - Courtney Jenkins, Menifee County/District 1

Video Recordings - Joanna Coles, Warren County/District 6

Fact Sheet - Steve Osborn, Allen County/District 6

Web Page - Amanda Sears, Madison County/District 4

Professional Excellence Awards

Extension Program Awards

Sustainable Agriculture USDA SARE/NACAA Recognition Program

Greg Drake - *Butler County*

A maple syrup production and use workshop was developed and delivered for clientele in Butler County Kentucky during the winter of 2014. The program was developed due to the increased demand for locally produced food and interest among clients about maple syrup production. The program offered clients the opportunity to see the equipment necessary to collect maple sap and produce syrup from that sap. It also taught participants how to use maple syrup in new ways to feed their family. The information was delivered in a classroom and lab setting using: power point, hands on learning, tasting, giving participants publications on the topics presented, and a field exercise to see maple trees. The program was evaluated with a paper evaluation at the conclusion of the workshop and follow up interviews. Several of the families that participated in the workshop made syrup this year. Most did so for their family's consumption. They also reported using this enterprise as a family activity.

Search for Excellence in Crop Production

Joana Coles, *Warren County*; Chris Milam, *Logan County*; Jason Phillips, *Simpson County*

Many families in Logan, Simpson and Warren Counties depend upon grain crop production as their primary source of income. Although grain prices have been good as of late, land purchase and lease prices continue to rise, and input costs remain very high. The volatility of the grain market along with these other challenges, mount an ever-increasing importance for producers to sharpen their managerial skills and continue to rely on the UK Cooperative Extension Service for unbiased, research-based information.

Due to these factors, local stakeholders in Logan, Simpson and Warren Counties identified the need for Extension Agents to offer grain programs. In response, Extension Agents for Agriculture in these three counties organized a "Tri-County Grain Programming Series". The programs offered reflected issues identified by producers and local stakeholders. These "Tri-County" programs include: "Corn Field Day", "Pest Management Workshop", "Grain Day" and three "Grain Newsletters".

Special KACAA Awards

Ag Awareness and Appreciation Award - Greg Drake

Public relations efforts are an important part of any county extension agent's job. The farm population is falling every year. The number of persons involved in the agriculture industry is falling in most parts of the country. Those of us involved in agriculture must do a good job of promoting our industry to all stakeholders. We need the support of non-farm people to insure a favorable environment to produce the nation's food and fiber. In Butler County there are almost thirteen thousand people and only about fifteen hundred that are involved in agriculture. A program on using local food to feed your family was conducted on the courthouse lawn to expose members of the general population to locally grown produce and help them understand what is available in our community. The program was successful in helping people understand where their food comes from and the importance of what is happening in our rural community.

Extra Effort Award - Stephanie Derifield

Stephanie Derifield, County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Science, has played an active role in the Lawrence County Farmer's Market, the Heritage Harvest Tour, Disaster Planning, Financial Planning, Sun Safety for Farmers, Farm and Home Field Days, and Country Ham Projects. One of the most noted projects is the Heritage Harvest Tour. With her help promoting and organizing the one day driving tour, we can account for over \$90,000 being spent on farms and tour stops within Lawrence and Boyd Counties. Stephanie strives to improve the quality of life of the individuals within Lawrence County and sees the value in promoting and improving the agriculture in the county. Growing up in a rural agriculture community, she understands and values the culture. Stephanie is always willing to be a part of the team to promote agriculture. She serves the clientele of Lawrence County proudly, promoting agriculture through encouraging folks to buy local and eat healthy. She is willing to lend a hand to get any job finished.

Search for Excellence in Farm Health and Safety

Eric Baker - *Estill County*

With revisions in Kentucky commercial vehicle regulations including farm vehicles, farmers need current information to operate vehicles legally and avoid violations. In response, the UK Cooperative Extension agent for agriculture and natural resources Eric Baker collaborated with the Kentucky State Police Commercial Vehicle staff to develop and execute a Farm Truck and Trailer Safety Program. The program would be divided into two parts. Part one of the program was an overview of current commercial and farm vehicle regulations and exemptions. Part two was a mock inspection using a local volunteer's farm truck and gooseneck trailer. The mock inspection covered trailer brakes, load binding, and weight classes. Each participant was provided a Kentucky Farm Vehicle Regulations quick reference guide provided by Kentucky Farm Bureau. Twenty seven people attended the meeting April 30, 2013. Twenty completed a survey with 85% indicating they learned at least some pertinent information. Participants listed weight classes, rules/exemptions, trailer safety breakaway, DOT number use, difference in intra- and interstate, and farm versus part-time business as examples of knowledge gained. Ninety-five percent of those surveyed indicated they would use the information presented to safely and legally operate a truck and trailer and agreed the mock inspection was very beneficial. In addition, a lawn care business owner commented that his truck and trailer weight class was too great and he would downsize trucks to be compliant with the law.

Service to Agriculture Award

Jerry McIntosh - Area Resource Soil Scientist with NRCS

The title of Area Resource in Jerry's job description is definitely true. Jerry has been a presenter at several of our Agent Training sessions as well as an annual contributor at our Purchase Area irrigation meetings. He has presented numerous individual county meetings to help educate our clientele on soils, wetlands, irrigation possibilities, soil productivity and other topics. If you have a soils question or problem in this end of the state, you either call Dr. Lloyd Murdock or Jerry McIntosh. That should just about say it all. Jerry grew up in the Greenville area in a family that farmed and operated a logging business. He majored in Geology at Murray State University and completed his Master's degree at UK under Dr. Barnhisel, focusing on strip mine reclamation and soil development. Jerry has worked for NRCS since graduating from UK, and has been involved with mapping soils for the soil survey across Kentucky. He moved to the Purchase Area in the mid-90's and has been the Area Resource Soil Scientist for the western third of the state for the last 10 years. Jerry and his wife Cindy live in Graves County with their daughter Katie Beth who is a senior in High School.

Laura Knoth - Executive Director for the Kentucky Corn Growers and Kentucky Small Grain Growers Associations

Laura grew up on a farm in Livingston County and graduated from UK in 1989 with the very first degree in Natural Resource Management. After working with several environmental consulting firms, she started her public service career in agriculture with Kentucky Farm Bureau. During her tenure at Farm Bureau, Laura has held a variety of positions ranging from District 1 Area Program Director to Director of Public Affairs and Chief Lobbyist. Since 2010, she has been the Executive Director of the Kentucky Corn Growers Association and the Kentucky Small Grain Growers Association. From putting on the Commodity Classic to supervising the research grants for both associations. Laura has always been a huge supporter of Extension and the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. Laura is also a recent newlywed, marrying her husband Mark, a farmer from Livingston County, in May.

Service to Agriculture Award, continued

Phillip Bean - *Farmer and Extension Volunteer*

Phillip produces 2500 acres of corn, wheat and soybeans in both the uplands areas and river bottoms in Carlisle County, so he has to have two completely different approaches to farming. He has been a wonderful volunteer for agriculture, the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture and his community. He has served numerous terms on the Area and State Ag Advancement Councils and served as Chairman of the State Council. He has also been a member of the State Extension Council and he was a charter member of the Kentucky Advisory Council for Sustainable Agriculture. Those of us who live in far Western Kentucky understand the sacrifices that a leader like Phillip has made in travelling to Lexington for meetings over the last 20 years. On the local level, Phillip has served on the Carlisle County Fair Board for 29 years. He has served several terms and just finished a term as chairman of the Carlisle County Phase 1 Ag Development Board. He has been a member of the County Extension Council and District Board and has been very instrumental in helping build the new Carlisle County Extension Office, which will soon be opening in Bardwell. Phillip serves as Sunday School Superintendent at the Mississippi Baptist Church. He is the proud father of Russel, and has a grandson, Colyn James, who is 5 years old. If you go to any grain production meeting in western Kentucky, it is a good bet that Phillip will be there trying to learn something new.

Outstanding Specialist Awards

Paul Bachi

Until his retirement in 2013, Paul was a fixture at the Plant Diagnostic Lab at the Princeton Station for 30 years. Originally from Trenton, NJ, he got his undergraduate degree from Rutgers in Natural Resource Management-Forestry in 1979. His Masters in Plant Pathology was also from Rutgers in 1982. In February 1983, he started at Princeton as the UK Plant Diagnostician. Over his career, it is estimated that he diagnosed over 45,000 samples. He has contributed over 1100 images to the Bugwood Network, utilizing partnerships and information technology to advance education in forestry, agriculture and invasive species. Paul was very instrumental in bringing county level problem diagnosis to the digital age. He was one of the architects of the Digital

Diagnostic System used by agents and specialists alike for many years.

He was the chair for many years of the UKREC Computer Needs and Operations program and played a significant role in meeting the technological needs at Princeton. Paul has been a member of the American Phytopathological Society since 1981. He was a career long member of Gamma Sigma Delta and in 2012 was ordained as a Permanent Deacon in the Roman Catholic Church. Paul may never realize how big an influence he was to all the new and inexperienced agents when they had that first run in with a homeowner with diseased tomato plants or the tobacco farmer standing there waiting for a diagnosis so he could go home and spray. He treated each diagnostic request as being important, whether it was a commercial or a homeowner sample and he always did his best to try folks the best answer for their plant problems. To ag and hort agents that have had the priveledge of working with Paul down through the years, he is commonly known as "The World's Greatest Diagnostician;" and that is a title that is well deserved.

Don Hershman

Don was originally from Pennsylvania and received his BA degree in Biology from West Chester State College in 1978. He then got his Master and PhD from Rutgers University in 1981 and 1983. He came to Princeton in 1984 as an Assistant Extension Professor with responsibility for grain crop diseases in western Kentucky. By 1995, he was a full Extension Professor with responsibility for soybeans and small grains. Don has been instrumental as a member of the Wheat Science Group, helping take wheat from the role of "ugly stepsister" and making it a profitable part of the standard KY upland crop rotation. His work with diseases and no-till wheat and the proper use of fungicides including getting numerous emergency labels for wheat applications before there were labeled fungicides has greatly served KY farmers. In soybeans, education on Soybean Cyst Nematode and the usual soybean diseases suddenly took a back seat in the early 2000's with the detection of Soybean Rust in South America. He has been a coordinator for the Southern Soybean Sentinel Network and been a nationally recognized expert on the use of fungicides for control of soybeans rust. Over the years, Don has done countless state, regional and county meetings on disease control in wheat and soybeans and has only been a phone call away to respond to problems in individual producer's fields. Don and his wife Kathy live in Princeton and are very active with Hershman Ministries and Huruma Ministries in Kenya.

Outstanding Specialist Awards, continued

Sam Mc Neill

Originally from Fleming County, and just like the rest of the specialists honored here tonight, Sam has spent his entire career at Princeton, except for a short time in Tennessee where he finished his PhD at the University of Tennessee in 1996. He received his BS degree in Agricultural Engineering from UK in 1974, his MS degree from UK in 1979, and also started at Princeton in 1979. His primary focus as an Extension specialist has been in the storage of agricultural products, mainly grains; Post Harvest Process Engineering and Precision Agricultural Practices for monitoring grain quality. In laymen's terms, that means from properly setting the combine at harvest to everything in between, to finally hauling it to the grain elevator and getting a check. Sam has ridden the cycles of grain bin building boom and bust with county meetings, regional and state meetings, plus assisting individual farmers with designing grain handling facilities, even computer modeling of the harvest operation to determine the proper size of equipment from grain bins down to the number of trucks needed. He has worked closely with the entomologists to determine the best practices for storing grains properly in KY. Any type of question about harvest or storage and you know Sam is the man to call and he will find an answer. Sam and his wife, Helen, live in Paducah and are members of St. Thomas Moore Catholic Church and recently toured Italy and the Vatican.

Life Members Memorial Reading

KACAA 2014 Annual Conference Sponsors

Gold Level Sponsors

Garnett Farms
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Farm Credit Services Mid America
Kentucky Corn Promotion Council
Phillip Morris International
Southern States Cooperative
Beck's

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Kentucky Equine Education Project
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Cal Maine Foods

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Wright Implement
River Valley Ag Credit
Bluegrass Stockyards
Council for Burley Tobacco
Kentucky Poultry Federation
Drexel
Martin Industries
Tosh Farms

The County Agent

Throughout the day the people call
The person they think should know it all;
My tree is getting yellow now,
My lawn is turning brown somehow
My bush is losing all its leaves.
My garden's dying! Someone grieves.

They bring the bugs they find at home;
They cart in soil from sand to loam
And spiders, crickets, worms and weevils.
They want to know if their bites are evil.
They bring the limbs of ailing trees;
They ask advice on killing bees
And how to rid their barn of bats.
They want a trap for critters and cats.

They question when to plant their beans
And when to harvest their turnip greens.
They bring in sickly-looking shoots
And unknown weeds pulled up by roots.
They ask them to stop by their house
To trap a skunk or kill a mouse,
Get rid of pesky hornet's nests,
Identify a garden pest.

They seek to know how much to water
And when to send their pig to slaughter.
From eight to late the Agent hears
Complaints and questions, dreams, and fears;
He/She does their best to help them all,
Extending knowledge with each call.
On their advice, folks can depend;
The County Agent is their friend!

~Grace Jessen