

The Boyle County Thymes



So, your houseplants are yellow...

It's about that time of year when we notice our houseplants start to look yellow, and overall just, not good. Maybe they are getting crispy along the edges or losing leaves all together. If this sounds familiar, don't panic. Here's a few tricks to help...

1

LEAVES CURLING INWARD, DROOPING OR CRISPING =

Check the soil, is it pulling away from the sides of the pot? If so, under watering is to blame. Sit your pot in a tub of water for a few hours to rehydrate. If it seems hydrated, make sure it is not receiving too much dry heat from a vent nearby.

2

LEAVES FADING TO GREEN OR BRIGHT YELLOW =

The ombre effect. This is usually accompanied by wet soil and little gnats on the soil surface. You may also see blackening at the base of the stems. This is a sign of overwatering. Either repot into fresh soil, or let the soil dry out before watering again.

3

IRREGULAR YELLOWING OR LEAF DEFORMITIES =

More unusual to see, this can be caused by pests or mineral deficiency. Turn over leaves and inspect the pot for signs of insects. If none are found, try a diluted fertilizer that contains calcium and boron.

4

WHOLE PLANT YELLOWING, MAY DROP LEAVES =

This is most likely a temperature thing and usually appears as a more pale, whitish yellow. Move away from vents, windows, or doors that could be causing drafts.

1.
Yellow Plants

2.
Black Knot

3.
Turf Calendar

4.
Upcoming Classes

5.
Septic Systems



6.
Farmer's Market

7.
Tips For Spring

8.
KY Proud Recipes

9.
Trowel and Error
Plant Spotlight

Have a Plum or Cherry Tree? Read This.

Black Knot Disease

Black knot is a common, often serious, disease of plums and cherries in Kentucky. Trees in both commercial and residential plantings are susceptible to the disease. Black knot results in knotty growths that, over time, encircle limbs and result in branch death.

Black Knot Facts

- Symptoms begin as small, light brown, irregular swelling or knots on limbs. The next year, enlarging knots become olive-green with a velvety surface and progress to become hardened, brittle, black swellings. Knots, which can reach lengths of 6 inches, continue to expand each year until girdled branches eventually die.
- Only actively growing twigs of the current season's growth are susceptible.
- While infection takes place in spring, knot development is not evident until autumn.
- The pathogen overwinters in knots on previously infected twigs and branches, and spores are spread by wind and rain.
- Caused by the fungus *Apiosporina morbosa* (syn. *Dibotryon morbosum*).



Management Options

Cultural practices, such as pruning and sanitation, are the primary means for reducing or eliminating black knot.

- Prune out knots in autumn or winter after leaves fall and infected branches are easy to recognize. Inspect trees again in April and remove any newly formed knots.
- Remove any trees with girdled trunks and/or large limbs.
- Destroy or discard all diseased wood.
- Remove wild plum and cherry trees from the vicinity.



Fungicide applications may be used in conjunction with the cultural practices listed previously, but are often not warranted.

- Fungicides can be applied in spring to protect young, expanding twigs.
- Homeowners should refer to Extension publication, Disease and Insect Control for Home Grown Fruit in Kentucky for specific fungicide recommendations.
- Commercial growers should refer to the Midwest Fruit Pest Management Guide for current fungicide recommendations.
- Always follow all label directions when utilizing fungicides.

Turf Care Calendar for Cool-Season Lawns in KY

Dr. Gregg C. Munshaw
Turf Specialist, UKY

1. Not all lawns need to be aerified or de- thatched. These only need to be done if the soil is excessively hard or a great deal of thatch exists.
2. Lime only needs to be applied if indicated by a soil test report. Applying lime when it is not needed, as indicated by a soil test, could result in reduced nutrient availability and turfgrass health.
3. Lawns can be mowed any time of the year if the grass is growing. Mowing height should be increased in the summer to reduce stress from heat and drought.
4. Mower maintenance, including blade sharpening and oil and filter changes, should be done in the winter so the mower will be ready to use for the lawn growing season.
5. Nitrogen fertilizer should only be applied in the spring to lawns if it was not applied in the fall. Excessive nitrogen applied in the spring and/or summer reduces turfgrass health and promotes insects, diseases, and weeds.
6. Pre-emergent herbicides should be applied in early April in southern and western Kentucky and by April 15 for central, eastern, and northern Kentucky. A second application may be necessary in late May to insure grass control all summer. Summer annual grassy weeds include crabgrasses, goosegrass, and foxtails. An autumn pre-emergent application may be necessary for annual bluegrass and winter annual broadleaf weed control. The autumn application should be avoided if the lawn will be seeded with desirable species.
7. Post-emergent herbicides work best when weeds are young, succulent, and actively growing. Late-summer/early autumn is the ideal time for planting seed, seed germination and grass seedling development. Although spring lawn seedings can be successful, irrigation and extra care are likely necessary for juvenile grass plants to survive the summer.
8. Sod can be laid at any time during the year as long as the soil is not frozen. Insecticide applications for white grub control should only be made if a history of grubs exists in the lawn or if grubs are present.

Management Practice	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Aerify ¹			■	■	■				■	■		
Lime ²	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Mow ³			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Mower maintenance ⁴	■	■	■				■					■
Nitrogen fertilization ⁵			■	■	■				■	■	■	■
PRE-herbicides for annual grassy weeds ⁶			■	■	■							
POST-herbicides for annual grassy weeds ⁷					■	■	■	■				
POST-herbicides for broadleaf weeds ⁷			■	■	■				■	■	■	
Seeding for renovation or initial establishment ⁸		■	■	■	■				■	■		
Sodding ⁹		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Curative white grub control ¹⁰								■	■	■		
Preventive white grub control ¹⁰					■	■	■					

Note: Cool-season lawns include Kentucky bluegrass, tall fescue, fine fescues, and perennial ryegrass.

■ Best time to perform activity
 ■ Second-best time to perform activity
 □ Do not perform activity

Upcoming Classes and News

Classes are subject to cancel if people do not call to register. Please call ahead even for free classes!
All classes are at the Boyle Co. Extension Office unless otherwise stated.

- **February 24th: Farmer's Market Orientation 6pm**
 - See page 6!
- **March 21st: Apple Grafting 10am, \$20**
 - Join us at Shaker Village for a day of apple care information and graft your own apple trees to take home. Lunch included. Space is limited, must register and pay by 3/13 to secure your spot.
- **April 14th: IPM 101**
 - An introduction to integrated pest management to help you deal with those pesky diseases and insects this year.
- **April 27th: Composting 101 6pm, BC Library**
 - Learn the basics of constructing and caring for a compost bin.
- **May 6th: Foods For Fermenting 6pm**
 - Find out the best plants and varieties for fermenting and how to get started in this ancient preservation technique!
- **May 20th: Foods For Drying 6pm**
 - Learn what, how, and why to dry some of your favorite garden items!



SEPTIC SYSTEM PROBLEMS? WE CAN HELP!

TUESDAY, MARCH 3RD
6:00 TO 7:30 PM

INTER-COUNTY ENERGY 2ND FLR MTG ROOM
1009 HUSTONVILLE ROAD, DANVILLE, KY

OR

MONDAY, MARCH 16TH
6:00 TO 7:30 PM

HUSTONVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
FAMILY LIFE CENTER
9959 KY HWY 78, HUSTONVILLE, KY

Join us for a FREE workshop to learn how your septic system works and how to properly maintain it to prevent expensive repairs. You may qualify for septic financial assistance: information and applications will be provided at the meeting.



Residents of **Boyle** and **Lincoln** counties who reside within the Clarks Run and Hanging Fork watersheds may be eligible for financial assistance for a septic pumpout, repair, or installation. Must attend workshop to be eligible.

REGION ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONTACTS:

BOYLE COUNTY
JASON STEVENS
(859) 236-2053

LINCOLN COUNTY
RANDALL CARRIER
(606) 365-3106

QUESTIONS? CONTACT
LINDSIE NICHOLAS
(859) 266-1572

REGISTRATION ENCOURAGED
BUT NOT REQUIRED. PLEASE VISIT
BGGREENSOURCE.ORG/SEPTIC-CARE-WORKSHOPS
TO REGISTER.



This work was funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under §319(h) of the Clean Water Act through the Kentucky Division of Water to Bluegrass Greensource.





FARMER'S MARKET ORIENTATION

Covering Topics such as:

- How to get a business license
- Marketing 101
- Sampling Certificates
- Selling meats and eggs
- Tips & Tricks for booth setup
- Using a credit card reader



Interested in joining the Farmer's Market this year? Join us for an orientation to see if it is right for you!

FEBRUARY 24, 2020
6PM
BOYLE CO. EXTENSION OFFICE



Tips For Spring

- ▶ Don't work garden soils if they are wet. Squeeze a handful of soil. It should form a ball that will crumble easily. If it is sticky, allow the soil to dry further before tilling.
- ▶ Inspect fruit trees for tent caterpillar egg masses. Eggs appear as dark brown or gray collar that encircle small twigs. Destroy by pruning or scratching off with your thumbnail.
- ▶ Collect scion wood now for grafting of fruit trees later in spring. Wrap bundled scions with plastic and store them in the refrigerator.
- ▶ Grapes and bramble fruits may be pruned now.
- ▶ Begin pruning fruit trees. Start with apples and pears first. Peaches should be pruned just before they bloom.
- ▶ When pruning diseased tree branches, sterilize tools with a 1-part bleach, 9-parts water solution between cuts. Dry your tools at day's end and rub them lightly with oil to prevent rusting.
- ▶ Keep foot traffic to a minimum when lawn soils are wet or frozen.
- ▶ When sowing seeds indoors, be sure to use sterile soil mediums to prevent diseases. As soon as seeds sprout, provide ample light to encourage stocky growth.
- ▶ Repot any root-bound house plants now before vigorous growth occurs. Choose a new container that is only 1 or 2 inches larger in diameter than the old pot.
- ▶ Ornamental grasses should be cut to the ground just as the new growth begins.
- ▶ Fertilize bulbs with a "bulb booster" formulation broadcast over the planting beds. Hose off any granules that stick to the foliage.
- ▶ Seeds of hardy annuals such as larkspur, bachelor's buttons, Shirley and California poppies should be direct sown in the garden now.
- ▶ Begin to fertilize house plants as they show signs of new growth. Plants that are still resting should not receive fertilizer yet.
- ▶ Encourage birds to nest in your yard by providing water and by putting up bird houses. Planting suitable shrubs, trees, vines and evergreens will provide wild food sources and nesting habitat.





Dijon Chicken Asparagus Roll Ups

3 tablespoons Dijon mustard	2 teaspoons dried thyme	4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves (about 5 ounces each)
½ cup low fat mayonnaise	2 teaspoons black pepper	4 slices skimmed mozzarella cheese
1 lemon, juiced (approximately 3 tablespoons)	½ teaspoon salt	1 cup panko bread crumbs
	16 spears fresh asparagus, trimmed	

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. **Grease** an 11-by-7-inch baking dish. In a bowl, **mix** together the mustard, mayonnaise, lemon juice, thyme, salt and pepper; set aside. **Place** asparagus in a microwave safe dish and **microwave** on high 1-1½ minutes. **Place** chicken breasts between two sheets of heavy plastic (a re-sealable freezer bag works well) on a firm surface. **Pound** the chicken breasts with the smooth side of a meat mallet to thickness of ¼ inch. **Place** one slice of cheese and four asparagus spears on each breast. Tightly **roll** the chicken breasts around the asparagus

and cheese. **Place** each, seam side down, in the prepared baking dish. **Apply** a coating of the mustard mixture to each chicken breast and **sprinkle** each with the panko crumbs, **pressing** the crumbs into the chicken to secure. **Bake** 35 minutes or until the chicken temperature is 165 degrees F. For crisper chicken, **place** roll-ups under the broiler for 1-2 minutes on high.

Yield: 4 servings

Nutritional Analysis: 370 calories, 10 g fat, 3.5 g saturated fat, 115 mg cholesterol, 1060 mg sodium, 2 g fiber, 2 g sugars, 41 g protein.

Spring Harvest Salad

5 cups torn spring leaf lettuce	Dressing:	2 teaspoons Kentucky honey
2½ cups spinach leaves	4 teaspoons lemon juice	½ teaspoon salt
1½ cups sliced strawberries	2½ tablespoons olive oil	¼ cup feta cheese crumbles
1 cup fresh blueberries	1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar	½ cup unsalted sliced almonds
½ cup thinly sliced green onions	1½ teaspoons Dijon mustard	

1. Combine leaf lettuce and spinach leaves with sliced strawberries, blueberries and green onion in a large salad bowl.

2. Prepare dressing by whisking together the lemon juice, olive oil,

balsamic vinegar, Dijon mustard, honey and salt; **pour** over lettuce mixture and toss to coat.

3. Sprinkle salad with feta cheese and sliced almonds.

4. Serve immediately.

Yield: 8, 1 cup servings.

Nutrition Analysis: 130 calories, 9 g fat, 1.5 g sat fat, 240 mg sodium, 12 g carbohydrates, 3 g fiber, 7 g sugar, 3 g protein.

Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand.



Trowel & Error: Managing Moles

The first step in controlling moles is to actually determine if a mole is the culprit. Because moles are insectivores, they do not routinely eat garden seeds and bulbs, although they are often blamed. The real culprits are probably voles, white-footed mice, or house mice. If your garden has runways in it, the moles are looking for insects and earthworms.

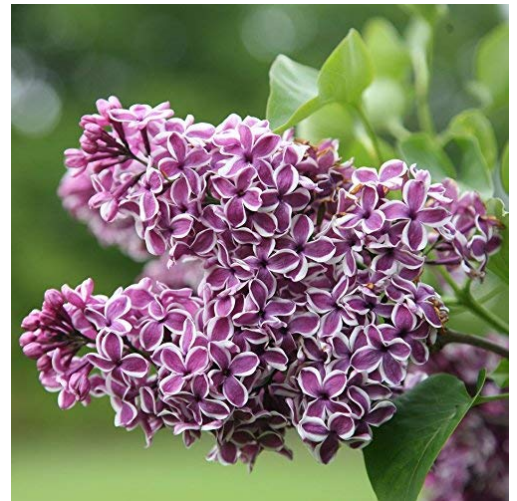


The most effective way to manage moles is through trapping. They are solitary creatures and a single lawn usually has no more than 1-2 moles. Three types of mole traps are currently available and all work equally well if used properly. The names of these traps are harpoon trap, scissor-jaw trap, and choker-loop trap. The harpoon trap has sharp spikes that spear the mole as it passes. The scissor-jaw trap kills by grabbing the animal. Finally, the choker-loop trap has a loop that tightens around the mole's body. You can buy traps at local hardware, agriculture supply, feed and seed stores, or from these manufacturers:



Plant Spotlight

Common Lilac *Syringa vulgaris*



Syringa vulgaris, commonly known as common lilac, is an upright, multi-stemmed, suckering, deciduous shrub in the olive family that typically matures to 12-16' tall with a spread to 8-12' wide. It is native to open woodlands, rocky hills and scrubby areas in southeastern Europe, but has been widely cultivated throughout Europe (beginning in the late 1500s) and North America (brought over by colonists in the early 1600s). It is particularly noted for its mid to late spring (May) bloom of very fragrant, tubular, lilac to purple flowers.

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun. Tolerates light shade, but best bloom is in full sun. Intolerant of full shade. Prefers moist, fertile, organically rich, slightly acidic to slightly alkaline soils with good drainage. Avoid soggy soils. Needs good air circulation. Prune as needed immediately after flowering.



Boyle County Extension Office

99 Corporate Drive

Danville, KY 40422



Not quite spring yet, but it is about time for seeding to begin and nothing excited a plant-nerd quite like seeding time! I just received a huge envelope full of new and exciting seeds and I just cannot wait to get my fingers back in the soil!

Now is a really good time to start taking inventory of tools, seeds, irrigation equipment, fertilizer etc. so that you have plenty of time to get necessary items. I'm partly telling you this because well for one, its good advice, and two, maybe if I write it down I'll actually do it! Ha ha!

Anyway, I hope your spring yields beautiful little seedlings and as always don't hesitate to call if you need advice. Always happy to help in your plant growing ventures!

Lady May

Lord the wind can leave
you shiverin' as it waltzes
o'er the leaves. It's been
rushin' through my timber
til' your love brought on
the spring. Now the
mountains all are blushin'
and they don't know what
to say 'cept a good long
line of praises for my lovely
Lady May.

~ Tyler Childers

Alexis A. Sheffield
Boyle Co. Agent for Horticulture
aeam222@uky.edu