

July 2023



# Casey County Ag News

Casey County Cooperative  
Extension Service  
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Happy July everyone!

It is hard to believe that we are already over halfway through the year. This year has certainly been a challenging and busy one for everyone involved in agriculture.

Additionally, it is almost time for CAIP signups. Read further into the newsletter to find more details on Casey County's CAIP and how to get your farm signed up.

*Kelsey Marcum*

Kelsey Marcum  
Casey County Agriculture and  
Natural Resources Extension Agent

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Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.

## Casey County Farmers Market

Every Thursday, May through September.

Casey County Bank

## Casey County Agricultural Development Council

July 17th at 6:00pm

The Bread of Life Cafe

### Latest Safe Planting Dates

**July 1st** - Celery, Cucumbers, Muskmelons,  
Onions (plants), Peppers (plants), Irish  
Potatoes, Southern Peas, Watermelons,  
Winter Squash

**July 10th** - Sweet Corn, Sweet Potatoes,  
Rutabaga, Southern Peas

**July 15th** - Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage,  
Carrots, Chard, Okra,

**July 20th** - Cauliflower

**July 25th** - Asparagus

For more information refer to ID-128 or call our  
office.

## Casey County Cattlemen's Meeting

August 10th at 6:30 pm

Casey County Extension Office  
Educational Building

A meal will be provided.

Call 606-787-7384 to register.

## July Herbicide Weed Control

Spiny Amaranth (Pigweed)

White Heath Aster

White Clover

Common Cocklebur

Hemp Dogbane

Goldenrod

Horsenettle

Tall Ironweed

Jimsonweed

Sericea Lespedeza

Marshelder (Sumpweed)

Common Milkweed

Perilla Mint

Maypop Passionflower

Common Pokeweed

Common Ragweed

Lanceleaf Ragweed

Arrowleaf Sida

Bitter Sneezeweed

Nodding Spurge

Tickclover

**Refer to AGR-207 for herbicide  
recommendations or call us  
for more information.**

## Horticulture Webinar Wednesdays

Every Wednesday at 12:30pm

A weekly discussion for garden  
geeks about anything

horticultural! There will be zoom  
lessons, gardening talks and

some shenanigans. This is for  
non-commercial gardeners!

Find more on Facebook!

# Water is Nutrient #1 for Horses

Source: Bob Coleman, UK Extension Horse Specialist

Horses rely on many nutrients to thrive including protein, fat, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals.

However, water is the most important nutrient. Water accounts for nearly 75% of a horse's body weight. Most horses need at least 6-8 gallons every day, but the amount required will vary based on weather or diet. In hot weather, horses will need more water, and a horse eating hay requires more than one on pasture. Lactating broodmares always require more water.

Always prioritize fresh, clean water for your animals for many reasons. Adequate hydration reduces the risk of colic and plays a vital role in digestion. Water helps horses regulate their body temperature, lubricates joints, assists in muscle contraction strength and get rid of waste.

Most horse managers easily prioritize clean, fresh water in the barn. They have a daily routine of checking, cleaning and filling water buckets. But outside water may end up being more accidental than routine. You can't rely on streams and ponds for your water source. Horse traffic can break down stream banks, contaminate the water source and even cause animal injuries. Regularly check stock tanks and troughs, frequently change the water and clean the container.

Stock tank water may get a bit warmer than what some horses prefer, so watching the capacity of the watering device can help. Keep water cooler by changing it more often or having the water refreshed in the waterer more often. This can help provide water horses want to drink. Carefully consider where to dump dirty water in the field so you don't create muddy areas.

Forages contain moisture and grazing horses will get some daily hydration while munching on pasture. However, still offer free-choice water sources for horses to visit throughout the day.



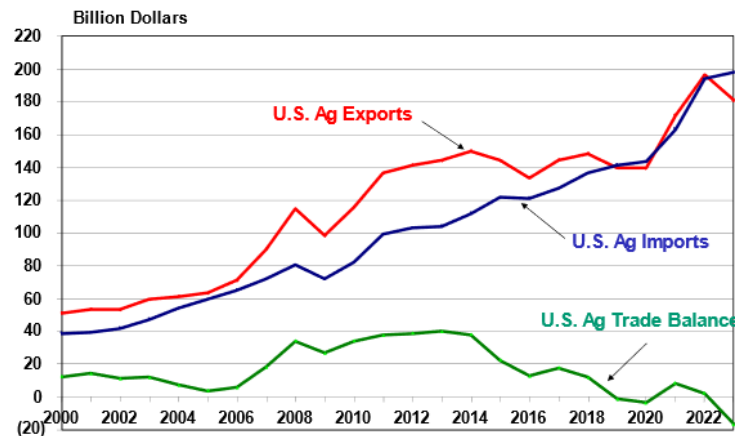
Learn to recognize dehydration signs in your horses. By the time you see the signs, your horse may have already lost 5% of its body weight. Dehydrated horses appear weak, have sunken eyeballs, dry mucous membranes, slow capillary refill time and an increased heart rate. Pinch the horse's skin near the base of their neck for two seconds. If the skin stays pinched, your horse most likely needs water and possibly electrolytes.

# Ag Export Growth Subsides Amidst a Changing Global Economy

Source: Will Snell, Extension Professor

After achieving a record high of \$196.4 billion in FY 2022 (October 1, 2021- September 30, 2022), USDA has for the second time reduced its 2023 FY forecast for U.S. agricultural trade – down to \$181 billion compared to \$184.5 billion estimate in February and its initial estimate of \$190 billion last November. Increasing crop supplies, lower commodity prices, a relatively higher valued dollar, and a sluggish and a slowing global economy are putting downward pressure on U.S. ag export sales.

Figure 1: U.S. Ag Exports, Imports, and Trade Balance



The latest trade data (through April 2023) reveals that since the beginning of the year, the value of U.S. ag exports are off 6%, with U.S. corn exports down 35%, beef exports are off 21%, and wheat exports 11% lower compared to the same period last year. While slumping so far in 2023, both corn and beef are coming off record high export levels in recent years. Alternatively, U.S. soybeans export growth continues along with higher dairy and pork exports so far in 2023. Important to Kentucky, bourbon exports continue to soar, while forest exports are trending lower. Tobacco exports are rebounding from record lows as tight supplies of burley worldwide are inducing foreign buyers to purchase limited stocks of U.S. burley.

China is forecast to remain the largest foreign buyer of U.S. agriculture, staying relatively stable in 2023 with U.S. soybean import demand remaining strong despite reportedly attempts from the Chinese government to diversify its import sources. Economic growth in China is forecast to increase from 3% to 5.2% this year as the nation continues to rebound from its COVID-19 challenges. While China's economy will likely rebound this year, economic growth is expected to decline in most other major U.S. markets. Despite its sluggish economy and the on-going U.S./Mexico GMO trade debate, U.S. ag exports to Mexico are expected to grow this year with Mexico surpassing Canada as the United States' second leading export customer. Collectively, the United States' three largest customers – China, Mexico, and Canada will account for nearly one half of U.S. ag exports in 2023.

Future export market trends for U.S. agriculture will hinge critically on the size of the 2023 U.S. grain crops, future developments of moving grain out of Ukraine amidst the current war with Russia, meat supplies, recovery in global economic growth, and the strength of the U.S. dollar versus major trading partners. While the U.S. dollar has softened a little so far in 2023, higher U.S. interest rates will likely keep the dollar relatively high and thus constrain potential export growth. A lot depends on future actions by the Federal Reserve in its attempts to reduce inflationary pressures on the U.S. economy.

Agricultural imports into the United States continue to grow leading to an anticipated record trade deficit for U.S. agriculture for FY 2023 forecast at \$14.5 billion. In fact, after recording annual trade surpluses for decades, U.S. agriculture has recorded trade deficits 3 out of the past 5 fiscal years. While U.S. food companies purchase foreign goods that compete with U.S. ag commodities/products and to address seasonality issues, food import demand has been increasing given the diversity of a changing demographic consumer base. Hispanic and Asian residents represent the fastest growing consumer bases in the United States who bring much different food preferences to the traditional American food basket. As Americans have become more diverse, wealthier, and travel abroad, the composition of the American diet reflects a larger share of ethnic foods, tropical products, spices, and imported gourmet food items and beverages. Foreigners traveling in the United States also discover many unique foods/beverages (e.g., country ham, bourbon) which create export opportunities for U.S. food and ag-related companies. However, enhanced international competition for U.S. ag exporters coupled with the anticipated growing demand for imported ag/food product trends will likely challenge the existence of future large U.S. ag trade surpluses.

MONEY FOR ON-FARM  
INVESTMENTS AVAILABLE...



**Casey Co. Conservation District**  
46 Farmers Deposit Drive, Suite 200  
Liberty, KY 42539  
(606) 787-2017 ext. 3

Or visit us on Facebook for more  
details or directions.

## COUNTY AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CAIP)

Applications will be available for Casey County's CAIP to assist farmers in making important on-farm investments.

**Application Period:**

July 31<sup>st</sup> – August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

*No applications will be accepted after August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023.*

**Application Availability:**

Casey County Conservation District Office  
Monday – Friday (8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

**For More Information:**

Contact: Casey County Conservation District  
at (606) 787-2017, ext. 3

*All applications are scored, based on the scoring criteria set by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.*

# SPICY GARLIC TROUT



**Servings: 10**

**Serving Size: 4 ounces**

## Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 pounds trout fillets
- 1 1/2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 teaspoons garlic powder
- 2 teaspoons brown sugar
- 1/4 - 1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes, depending on desired spiciness
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground pepper

## Directions:

Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds, especially after handling raw fish.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Place trout fillets on a baking pan lined with foil.

In a small bowl, whisk together olive oil, garlic powder, brown sugar, red pepper flakes, salt, and pepper.

Place pan in oven. Check fillets after 10 minutes. Fish should reach an internal temperature of 145 degrees F and flake easily with a fork.

Serve immediately. Store leftovers in the refrigerator within 2 hours.

190 calories; 10g total fat; 1.5g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 65mg cholesterol; 180mg sodium; 1g total carbohydrate; 0g dietary fiber; 1g sugars; 1g added sugars; 24g protein; 20% Daily Value of vitamin D; 4% Daily Value of calcium; 10% Daily Value of iron; 8% Daily Value of potassium.