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Estill County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources

Nothing can ruin a mouth-watering tomato more than reaching for one on the vine only to find an ugly, flattened spot on it. If the ugly spot is located on the fruit opposite the stem end, it is likely blossom end rot, a disease caused by a lack of calcium that commonly occurs in tomatoes but can also affect eggplant, peppers and many cucurbits. Blossom end rot spots develop into dark brown, leathery decays that may

Avoid Blossom End Rot

affect half of the tomato. Calcium is an essential part of the chemical "glue" that binds cells together within the fruit. When fruits are enlarging rapidly, sufficient amounts of calcium do not reach the end of the fruit. This causes cells to come apart, resulting in a rot or decay in that area. Calcium does not move easily from other plant parts, so any disruption in the plant's uptake can result in a deficiency.

Soils in Kentucky are rarely deficient in calcium, but water plays a critical role in the plant's uptake and distribution of calcium. So maintaining an even supply of moisture is important in controlling blossom end rot. However, to be sure that a soil is not calcium-deficient, soil tests should be taken, and if needed, it can be applied as lime prior to planting. If you need a soil test, contact our office for details. Irrigate plants as needed, and use mulch to conserve soil moisture. Irrigate on a consistent basis. Don't

allow plants to become stressed from too much or too little water. Avoid wetting foliage as much as possible as this could encourage fungal and bacterial diseases to develop on the plant. Trickle or drip irrigation is an excellent way of getting water to plants without the risk of wetting the foliage or splashing soil onto the foliage which can also lead to disease problems.

In addition, excessive amounts of ammonium tend to depress a plant's calcium uptake. Avoid using urea

or fertilizers high in ammonium. Instead, choose fertilizers high in nitrate. Calcium nitrate is an excellent nitrogen fertilizer, although it is more expensive than other nitrogen sources.

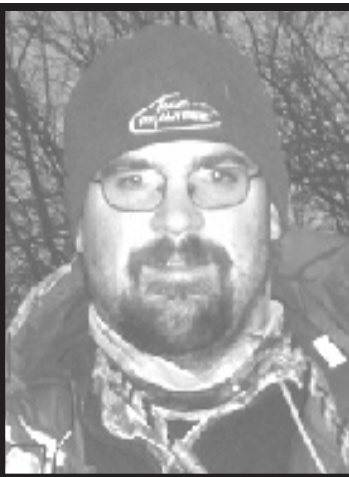
For more information on how to keep diseases from dampening your gardening enthusiasm, contact the Estill County Cooperative Extension Service at 723-4557.

Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Wanderings from the Woods & Water

by Jay Bicknell

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Memorial Day - A Story of Leadership (No Hunting or Fishing)

I hope everyone had a great Memorial Day weekend. I hope you got to spend time with your loved ones. Most of all, I hope you remembered all those who paid the ultimate price so we can live free.

A real close friend of mine wounded in Iraq has a story that shows the cost of Freedom. My friend was a career soldier with multiple deployments in combat zones. He has been blown up and shot a couple of times.

In 2006, my friend's son was killed in Iraq. In a few short weeks after burying his son he was back in Iraq fighting terrorists. When most would have had time to grieve he was deployed to a war zone where his son lost his life. My friend is a leader even in the toughest of times. I know he led his soldiers by example and he leads from the front. I have talked to a couple of his soldiers over the years and they all speak highly of his leadership.

In 2008 while deployed to Iraq my friend was in a severe firefight. He was jumping across roof tops trying to get position on the enemy when an AK-47 rung out. Two of the bullets struck my friend in the chest knocking him off the roof top. His body armor protected him from the two rounds. The fall broke his back, and two of his fingers were laying back, broken and touching the top of his wrist. He straightened his broke fingers, taped them up, and stayed in the fight.

My friend suffers from PTSD. His body is full of hardware due to injuries. There are some days it's a struggle for him to get

out of bed. He often thinks about the soldiers he had to hold as they died. He lives with a lot of pain so we can live free.

I say all this about my friend to make a few points.

- Those of us who have not fought for freedom will never know the cost paid by soldiers and their families.

- If you're a teacher, coach, or have a leadership role, always lead from the front. Always lead by example. There are a lot of eyes watching.

- If things are going bad for you, don't give up, and stay in the fight.

- The next time you see the American flag, remember many have died defending that flag.

- The next time you hear the Star Spangled Banner, stand up and show you're proud to be an American.

I want to THANK all veterans who have protected my Freedom. I will never forget those who have fallen so I can sleep peacefully.

A special THANKS goes out to all the Vietnam Vets who were not welcomed home with a parade. Who were not welcomed home!

Land of the FREE because of the Brave! Thank God for soldiers.

Until next week, get out, and Enjoy God's creation!



Birdie ER
Have these on hand in case you find an injured or sick bird:
• Cardboard box with holes punched in lid.
• Phone number and/or location of wild bird rehab.
• Bed sheet or net to catch the bird.
• Cotton gloves in case you have to handle the bird.
Thank you!
E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.rr.com
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The Garden Bug

June beetles, also called May beetles or June bugs, commonly appear in the Northern Hemisphere during warm spring evenings. They are attracted to lights. They feed on foliage and flowers at night, sometimes causing considerable damage. Their larvae live in the soil, and can destroy crops and kill lawns and pastures by severing the grasses from the roots.
- Brenda Weaver

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Stickeler's Answer

Stickelers Answer

1-d, 2-a, 3-c, 4-e, 5-b, 6-f
Stickeler's Puzzle on Page 11

Wishing Well®

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 6 |
| J | B | A | W | E | L | I | C | R | S | T | P | E |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 3 |
| N | O | A | O | I | N | I | E | N | Y | A | S | O |
| 6 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 2 |
| O | N | U | I | K | N | F | S | I | W | D | E | C |
| 4 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 3 |
| N | A | O | I | B | G | A | M | L | D | E | T | Y |
| 2 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 7 |
| E | C | H | S | A | E | C | A | I | U | S | S | A |
| 2 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 3 |
| G | H | N | A | D | O | M | O | F | R | U | I | H |
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| C | E | E | N | L | T | E | E | L | S | D | A | D |

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW
One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

QPYFBKBIV FQYZ BRQB
VZGUQBYKO YF QO
KPOQNVOB YO APKFAVPYBM
QOZ Q PVWGSV YO
QZHVPFYBM. - ZYKSVOVF

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.
Clue: L equals E

O ZUAAEKLJ YGUCL PGLCL VEXG
DIJEYKCD OA SOCFOSL DY
JEVZLJ GOY FLLI JEFFLJ
"KGL POYKL XUOYK."

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Puzzle Answers

May 28, 2014

Puzzles4Kids Answer

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | E | N | U | O | I | N | T | M | E | N | T |
| E | N | T | A | C | E | N | J | O | I | M | E |
| A | L | E | N | D | E | R | X | E | N | R | L |
| T | T | R | I | C | H | A | S | P | E | N | D |
| E | N | R | I | C | H | A | S | P | E | N | D |
| N | O | U | G | A | L | S | P | E | N | D | E |
| H | Y | G | I | E | N | E | T | S | H | E | N |

FEAR & KNIGHT answer

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| U | P | H | I | L | L | I |
| P | S | S | K | I | L | L |
| S | P | A | S | A | T | A |
| I | U | T | O | P | | |
| K | E | E | P | E | R | S |
| E | | | | A | E | |
| S | | | | T | I | E |
| | | | | | L | |

Letter Box Solution

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | F | L | S | O | W | E | R | U |
| O | R | S | U | E | F | L | W | N |
| U | E | W | L | R | N | S | O | F |
| R | W | U | O | N | L | S | O | F |
| L | N | E | R | F | S | O | U | W |
| F | S | O | E | W | U | R | N | L |
| S | U | N | F | L | O | W | E | R |
| W | L | R | N | S | E | U | F | O |
| E | O | F | W | U | R | N | L | S |

Even Exchange answers

- Lodge, Ledge
- Poster, Porter
- Weave, Leave
- Absent, Assent
- Radio, Ratio
- Recipe, Recite
- Close, Chose
- Forget, Forged
- Blond, Bland
- Craze, Crave

ARMED FORCES

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | O | M | M | A | N | D | G | E | E | S | E |
| W | I | L | D | A | R | T | A | R | C | Y | I |
| R | V | A | T | O | E | I | G | I | T | E | S |
| R | A | H | A | F | A | F | I | S | T | | |
| P | R | O | T | E | C | T | G | V | E | R | S |
| S | T | I | D | V | I | E | I | A | | | |
| S | E | N | I | R | A | M | F | A | P | G | R |
| C | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | N | O | P | A | E | W | | | | | L |

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 9 |
| 6 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 1 |
| 1 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 8 |
| 5 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 2 |
| 7 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| 3 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 4 |
| 9 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| 2 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 7 |
| 8 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 6 |

CryptoQuip answer

A polluted shore where much industrial garbage is dumped has been dubbed "the Waste Coast."

King Crossword Answer

Solution time: 21 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G | A | P | H | A | L | O | S | U | M | | |
| A | G | O | E | L | E | C | T | A | P | E | |
| S | A | T | E | L | L | I | T | E | T | O | |
| B | A | S | K | E | T | E | R | M | I | N | E |
| A | B | A | D | A | M | S | A | F | E | S | |
| R | E | T | D | R | E | S | D | I | R | E | |
| S | L | U | R | S | G | A | L | E | N | E | |
| R | U | E | D | L | E | A | D | E | R | | |
| B | A | D | G | E | R | T | A | D | | | |
| R | N | A | S | A | T | I | N | D | O | L | L |
| A | N | Y | A | M | I | N | E | W | O | E | |
| M | A | S | W | A | N | E | D | E | W | E | |

Bible Trivia Answers

Casey's trivia book "Know It? ... or Not?" is available from BearManorMedia.com

ANSWERS: (1) Neather; (2) Nilgheh; (3) Zephaniah; (4) Daniel; (5) Die; (6) Daniel

Agriculture Events

Through June 2, 2014

County Agricultural Investment Program

Applications will be available for Estill County's CAIP to assist farmers in making important on-farm investments during an application period, between May 19 and Jun 2. No applications will be accepted except during this period. Please obtain your Farm Serial Number (FSN) from the Farm Service Agency at the Richmond USDA Service Center prior to applying.

For Application Availability:
Estill County Conservation District
1505 Richmond Road
Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm
For More Information, call 606-723-5104 or Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ECCDKY.

Friday, June 6, 2014

Fish Sale For Re/Stocking Farm Ponds

The Estill County Conservation District 2014 FISH SALE will be Friday, June 6, 2014, in the District parking lot, 11:00 am - 11:30 am. This will be the only fish sale the District is holding in 2014.

The Conservation District is located at 1505 Richmond Road, Phone 723-5104. Or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ECCDKY.

Thursday June 12, 2014

Estill County Cattle Producer Meeting

Estill County Cooperative Extension and Estill County Cattlemen's Association will have a cattle producer's meeting on Thursday, June 12, 6:00 p.m., at the Estill County Extension Office. All cattle producers are encouraged to attend. Our guest speaker is UK Ruminant Veterinarian Michelle Arnold. She will discuss a serious cattle disease called anaplasmosis and control options. After the meeting, the Estill County Cattlemen's Association will have their June business meeting.

A catered meal is provided thanks to Farm Credit Services. Door prizes will be given as well. In order to prepare enough food, please pre-register by calling 723-4557 on or before June 6th.

Now Available

Conservation District Rental Equipment

The Estill County Conservation District has the following equipment for rent at reasonable rates: Post Driver (\$25 per day), No-Till Drills for seeding (\$4-\$5 per acre), Lime Buggy (\$30 per day), Wood Chipper (\$30 per day) and Log Splitter (\$25 per day). This equipment was purchased for shared-use and is available to all citizens in Estill County. Out of county rental rates are also available. For more information please contact the Conservation District at 723-5104 or find us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/ECCDKY.

Public Notice

Lily Mountain Nature Preserve

Notice: At this time the Lily Mountain Nature Preserve located in Estill County is considered to be private land. Legal action will be taken against all trespassers who are not authorized to access the property by Friends of Lily Mountain Inc.

The Friends of Lily Mountain Inc. (501C3) was formed in October 2010 and officially incorporated on March 28, 2012. As a nonprofit we seek grant based funding from various sources to aid in the promotion and conservation of the Lily Mountain Nature Preserve. Current partnerships include the Estill County Conservation District and the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board. For more information about becoming a member of Friends of Lily Mountain Inc. contact: lilymountain@estillcountyky.net or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com.