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It will not be long until winter annual broadleaf weeds like henbit, purple deadnettle, and buttercup species begin growing with moderating temperatures. As a cool-season weed, buttercup is a plant that flourishes in overgrazed pasture with poor stands of desirable forages. In fact, many fields that have dense buttercup populations are fields heavily grazed by animals during the fall through the early spring months.

Buttercups are sometimes classified as short-lived perennials, but often grow as winter annuals. Plants typically produce five, shiny yellow petals in the early spring. There

Buttercups in Pastures

are four different species of buttercups that may be found in Kentucky: bulbous buttercup (*Ranunculus bulbosus*), creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), tall buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*) and small flower buttercup (*Ranunculus abortivus*). Although each of these plants may have somewhat similar flower heads, each of these buttercup species differs somewhat in their vegetative leaf characteristics. New seeds are produced during the time petals are showy. If you wait until after flowers appear, it can be too late to implement control tactics. This is one reason buttercups can survive year to year and new plants emerge each year.

Most buttercup plants emerge from seed during the fall or late winter months. Therefore, pasture management practices that improve and promote growth of desirable plants during these months are the best methods to help compete against the emergence and growth of this plant.

Whereas, livestock overgrazing fields during the fall and winter months is one of the main factors that contribute to buttercup problems. You can mow fields or clip plants close to the ground in the early spring before buttercup plants can produce flowers and that may help reduce the amount of new seed produced, but mowing alone will not totally eliminate seed production.

For chemical control, herbicides registered for use on grass pastures that contain 2,4-D will effectively control buttercup. Depending on other weeds present, products that contain dicamba and 2,4-D (eg. Weedmaster), aminopyralid (eg. Fore-Front, Milestone), tri-clopyr (eg. PastureGard, Crossbow) or metsulfuron (eg. Cimarron) can also be used. However, legumes such as clovers interseeded with grass pastures can be severely injured or killed by these herbicide products. For optimum results apply herbicides in the early spring (February - March)

before flowers are observed, when buttercup plants are still small and actively growing. For best herbicide activity, wait until daytime air temperatures are greater than 50 degrees for two to three consecutive days. Consult the herbicide label for further information on grazing restrictions, precautions or other possible limitations.

For fields heavily infested with buttercup, you may need a variety of control tactics. Apply a herbicide to help reduce the population of buttercup plants in the spring, plus use good pasture management techniques throughout the year to help improve and thicken the stand of desirable forages.

For more information, contact the Estill County Cooperative Extension Service at 723-4557.

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Wishing Well®

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

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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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: O equals S

C VKIOO UDI TAYEF'O OILAPF-HIOU
TYCUCPV CBGEIBIPU LAKEF HI LXEEIF
UDI GIP KEUCBXUI.

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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.

ASHKJ RXXNR ZXRR RMA CQMK
QMEHKJ ZHEXA CUU ZHCCZX.
— JZUWHM RCXHKXN

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Friday, February 28th at 9am Private Pesticide Applicator Training

There will be a private pesticide applicator certification training Friday, February 28th, 9:00 a.m. at the Estill County Extension office. A certified private pesticide applicator can purchase and use restricted-use pesticides to produce any agricultural commodity on property owned or rented by him/her or an employer, or to the lands of a farmer-neighbor, if the application is made without compensation other than trading of personal services between producers of agricultural commodities. Certified private applicators also may train workers to satisfy Worker Protection Standards.

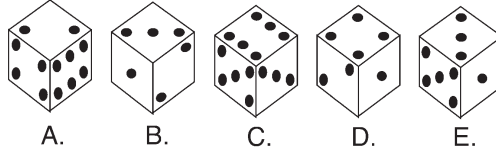
If you plan to attend this training, please call 723-4557 to pre-register.
Equal Opportunity Provider

Stickeler's Puzzle



On the five dice below, one of the faces is incorrect and has the dots going in the wrong direction.

Which die has a face that is incorrect?



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Stickeler's Answer on Page 11



Feeding monarchs

The monarch caterpillar (the larvae stage of the monarch butterfly) feeds *only* on the leaves of milkweed plants.

From these it gains all the nutrition needed to change into the adult form. The adult monarch consumes nectar from flowers, minerals from mud puddles and liquids from fruits. To attract them to your backyard, leave out slices of banana, oranges or watermelon, and plant a variety of flowering plants. — B. Weaver

Source: www.monarch-butterfly.com

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Winter Help

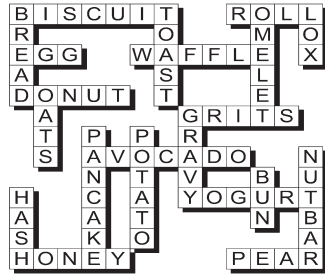
Fab Five High-Fat Foods:

1. Unsalted peanuts, in or out of shell.
2. Suet cakes or nuggets -- any flavor.
3. Hulled sunflower heart chips. (Every bird loves these.)
4. Black oil sunflower seed.
5. Natural peanut butter spread on bread and tossed on the ground.

E-mail: birdingbits@eflrr.com
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Puzzles4Kids

Answer



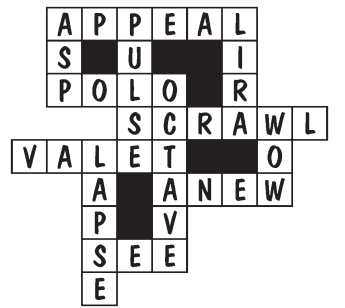
Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



answer



Even Exchange

answers

1. Orange, Grange
2. Tiger, Timer
3. Coarse, Course
4. Waver, Wager
5. Shave, Suave
6. Noise, Boise
7. Detour, Devour
8. Vents, Venus
9. Paste, Passe
10. Former, Firmer

King Crossword

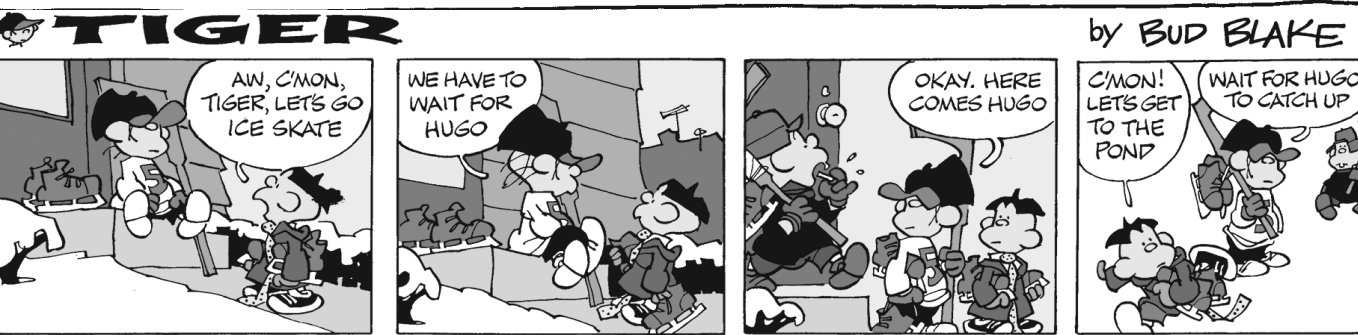
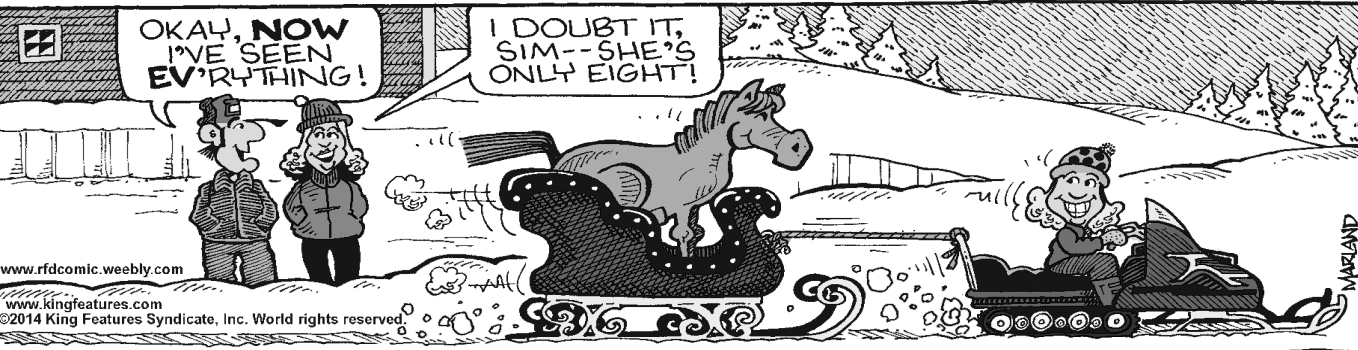
Answers



Letter Box

Solution

R	S	A	E	T	G	D	U	H	
G	E	T	H	D	U	R	S	A	
H	U	D	S	R	A	T	G	E	
U	T	G	D	S	H	A	E	R	
S	T	D	R	A	U	E	G	H	T
A	H	E	T	G	R	S	D	U	
E	R	S	U	A	D	H	T	G	
T	G	H	R	E	S	U	A	D	
D	A	U	G	H	T	E	R	S	



Bible Trivia Answers
"Test Your Bible Knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.
ANSWERS (1) New; (2) Encouragement; (3) Haman; (4) Joseph; (5) Martha; (6) Encouragement