



Cheeps & Chirps

..... *Points for Poultry Profitability*

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ANNUAL KENTUCKY POULTRY FESTIVAL—October 7

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We invite you to attend the 19th Annual Kentucky Poultry Festival at the Galt House in Louisville, KY on October 7th. We hope that you will mark your calendars and register to join us for an exciting day of food, fun and entertainment.

Ladies, join us for the ladies outing at Spa day. We will have limited appointments and they are filled on a first come first served basis. Saturday's times are from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Treatments offered will include: Massage, Manicure or Pedissage.

The Elk Run Golf Club is the location for this year's best ball scramble on Saturday, October 7th. The course is located at 1820 Charlestown-Jeffersonville Pike, Jeffersonville, IN 47130, (812) 283-9022.

An extension of the festival is the Kentucky Poultry Federation Scholarship Fund. On Saturday evening, we will host a silent auction where again all proceeds are designated for scholarships given to children and grandchildren of Kentucky's poultry families, employees and allied members. If you would like to donate an item for the silent auction please email me at jguffey@kypoultry.org

The day will conclude with the annual Hall of Fame Banquet where we will recognize our Hall of Fame Members, Family Farm Environmental Award Winners, Scholarship Winners, and our Ticket Sales Winners. After an evening of good food and recognizing the successes of friends, the grand finale is a concert by Confederate Railroad and a Monte Carlo Night.

Please make plans to attend our 19th Annual Kentucky Poultry Festival in Louisville. If you are unable to attend the events, but would like to support Kentucky's poultry industry; we have many ways that you can get involved without actually being present. If you would like to purchase tickets, please visit our website at www.kypoultry.org or, if you need more information, please contact the Kentucky Poultry Federation office at (270) 404-2277 or e-mail jguffey@kypoultry.org.



*Mark your calendars & make plans to attend the
19th Annual Kentucky Poultry Festival
October 7th*

*Louisville, Kentucky
Hall of Fame Banquet*

- Local Music 5 p.m. • Silent Auction 5 p.m.
- Dinner/Banquet/Annual Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- Confederate Railroad Concert and Monte Carlo Night 9:00 p.m.

PREPARING TO TRANSFER YOUR FARM TO THE NEXT GENERATION: ESTIMATE LIVING EXPENSES

There are many factors to consider when deciding to transfer your farm business to the next generation. Open communication between the generations is a key in successfully navigating the farm transition process. As part of the conversation, the topics of profitability and income generation should be addressed, for both the retiring and new generations. If the farm business does not have the ability to provide the income and asset needs of both generations, then the likelihood for success is greatly reduced.

Producers will often continue with specific enterprises on the farm business when the enterprise can generate enough income to cover short-run expenses; however, to ensure the longevity of the farm business, it should be profitable in the long run. Several factors influence profitability, such as input costs and commodity prices, but you should also consider the anticipated standard of living for the operation's farm families and current debt loads.

Households often struggle to estimate their current living expenses, which makes planning for the future difficult. According to the 2016 Kentucky Farm Business Management (KFBM) Family Living Summary, family living expenses were \$67,478. This number may be higher than you anticipated your current family living expenses; however, many families have trouble estimating their actual living expenses.

Both the retiring and new generations need to calculate the amount of income they will need to generate from the family farm. This should be done separately, because the two generations will have a different set of needs. The retiring generation may need to consider long-term care planning, while the younger generation may be concerned about establishing college saving funds. Below are some points to ponder for both generations.

Retiring Generation:

The first step in determining your retirement income needs is to calculate your current living expenses. If you already track your family living expenses on a monthly budget, then you are ahead of the game. If not, start a spending diary. Write down all of your expenses for a one-month period. The big expenses are normally easy to identify such as mortgage payments, insurance, taxes, and

utility bills; however, the everyday expenses such as eating out, trips to the store, and even things like snacks at the ballfield are much more difficult to track. It is important that you write down all expenses for one month because even the smallest expense adds up over time.

Multiply your spending estimate by twelve. As you review your expenses, identify the expenses that may not occur monthly, such as your property tax bill or holiday spending. Estimate your occasional expenses; examples of other occasional expenses that you may incur include home improvements, medical expenses, federal and state income taxes, recreation/vacations, and automobile expenses such as license, registration, insurance, and repairs. Add together the total of monthly expenses and occasional expenses; this number should give you a realistic idea of your spending needs.

Next, consider each item that you listed in your spending diary as an occasional expense. Do you anticipate any of these expenses increasing or decreasing when you enter into retirement? Many families are able to pay off their home mortgage prior to entering retirement, so this may be a reduced expense. However, many couples anticipate traveling more, so this expense category may actually increase.

It is also important to recognize that your expenses may change during retirement. For example, as you age your medical bills may increase. Nonetheless, with a little planning you should be able to determine a realistic income that will maintain your desired standard of living.

Most retiring couples will not need to rely on the farm as their only source of retirement income; total all of your estimated retirement income from other sources, which may include social security, and investments, or employer retirement from off-farm work. After you subtract the total amount of other income sources from your estimated retirement needs, you will have a realistic figure for the amount of income that you need to generate from the farm.

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PREPARING TO TRANSFER YOUR FARM TO THE NEXT GENERATION, *Con't*

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Younger Generation:

Similar to the retiring generation, the younger generation needs to develop a realistic estimate of its yearly family living expenses. Follow the same steps as the retiring generation for creating a spending diary and estimating occasional expenses. As you review your anticipated yearly expenses, determine if there are expenses that may adjust up or down over the next several years. Are you planning on having a child or another child? Will your day care costs increase? Or, maybe your children will be moving into public school and your day care

expenses will decrease. Do you have a child that will be driving soon? You will not be able to anticipate all of your future living expenses; however, you can develop a realistic estimate.

Determine your sources of other income. Do you or a spouse have off-farm employment? Do you have rental property or other investments that generate income? Subtract your total off-farm income from your estimated expenses; the remainder represents that amount of income you would need to generate from the farm operation. As a reminder, the younger generation should be certain to include savings and investment in retirement accounts in their expense estimates.

Once you have determined the income needs for both generations, you will have a realistic projection of the amount of income needed to cover your current standard of living.

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RESULTS OF STATE 4-H COOKING CONTESTS 2017

The 2017 State 4-H Egg Preparation Demonstration and Chicken Barbecue contests were held at the Madison County Extension Office on July 29. Laura Flannery from Montgomery County won the Egg Demonstration Contest with her dish, Fancy Ramen Noodles. The dish she selected is great for college students, which she will be this year.



place in the junior division was Adam Hoots who received a champion ribbon and \$50. There was only one participant in the senior division—Robert Bowling who received a champion ribbon and \$100. Robert will be representing Kentucky at the National 4-H Chicken Barbecue Contest as the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference in Louisville in November.



The charcoal for the contests was donated by Kingsford out of Summer Shade, Kentucky. The prize money was donated by the Kentucky Poultry

There were five contestants in the Chicken Barbecue Contest, all from Perry County. All did a great job and received blue ribbons. There was a tie for first place in the junior division, but the tie was broken based on sensory evaluation. The Reserve Champion was Nicole Fugate receiving a reserve champion ribbon and \$25. In first





STATE 4-H POULTRY JUDGING CONTEST RESULTS

The 2017 state 4-H poultry judging contest was held at the state fair August 18. A total of 60 4-Hers participated this year.

The top four juniors were:

- Kye Havens, Morgan County
- Austin Hay, Lawrence County
- Brock Kessinger, Lawrence County
- Chloe Rickard, Muhlenburg County



The top four seniors were:

- Kiersten Dotson, Pike County
- Lane Cox, Morgan County
- Madison Short, Lawrence County
- Cheron Flaughter, Carter County

The seniors will have the opportunity to represent Kentucky at the national contest in November. The alternate is Allison Keeten, Morgan County.



STATE 4-H AVIAN BOWL CONTEST RESULTS

The 2017 state 4-H avian bowl contest was held at the state fair August 18. There were 9 junior teams and 9 senior teams. The team from Madison County won the junior contest:

- Irena Wolform
- Caleb St. Pierre
- Arianna Hager

The top four individuals were:

- Irena Wolform, Madison County
- Katie Thacker, Pike County
- Alicia Tackett, Pike County
- Brock Kessinger, Lawrence County

The top senior team was from Laurel County:

- Layn McDiffett
- Austin Parker
- Olivia Collier
- Blake Parker

The top four seniors were:

- Jacob Kessinger, Lawrence County
- Bix Meyer, Pike County
- Layn, McDiffett, Laurel County
- Kiera Lovel, Pike County

The seniors will represent Kentucky at the National Contest in November.



GENERATOR MAINTENANCE

Information source: Mississippi State University publication "Maintenance critical to backup generator reliability" by Tom Tabler, Jessica Wells and Wei Zhai

A loss of power on a poultry farm can have disastrous results. It is critical to have a reliable backup generator. Regular maintenance of that generator is essential. Every year chickens are lost because of some form of generator failure such as no fuel, dead battery, weak starter, etc. Maintenance is critical to having the backup system run effectively over an extended period of time.

1. Check the fuel supply.

A typical 100–130 kilowatt generator can burn 5-8 gallons of diesel fuel per hour. If your generator runs a 1-hour weekly exercise cycle, that's not a lot of fuel, but if you lose power for 24 hours, the generator may burn nearly 200 gallons. Many generators have a 300-gallon fuel tank so you could run through two thirds of your tank during the 24 hours. What is the minimum number of gallons your supplier will deliver? For most suppliers, 100 gallons is the minimum. A good rule of thumb is to order more fuel when the tank is about half full.

2. Check the fuel filter

Always have a spare filter on hand. Even if you have plenty of fuel, the generator won't run if the fuel filter is clogged. Today's fuel filters can filter particles as small as 2 microns.

If the fuel tank is several years old there could be a build up of sediment on the bottom. The addition of fuel can stir up this sediment so that it becomes suspended in the fuel. If the

generator is running at this time, the sediment is pulled into the fuel filter and shortens its life span.

It is helpful to not have the fuel pickup lines reaching the bottom of the tank. There is less risk of the sediment being pulled into the filter when the pickup lines only extend to about 6 inches from the bottom of the tank. In doing so, however, you will not have access to the last 6 inches of the fuel in the tank and you need to take this into consideration when determining how much fuel you have.

3. Check your starter and battery

Starters and batteries can go bad with little or no warning. It is important to check both items routinely.

It is good to change a battery before its guaranteed life span is up. For example, if you have a 60-month battery for your generator, use it for only 2 years (24 months). Put in a new one and put the old one in your tractor or pickup for the remainder of the projected lifespan.

4. Perform regular maintenance

Generators also need regular maintenance. Refer to your owner's manual for the recommended maintenance schedule. Additional maintenance may be required if the generator has had to run for 48-hours or more.

Routine maintenance includes inspection of the automatic transfer switch, wiring, electronics, belts, hoses, fuel lines and other parts, all need to be inspected. This may require bringing in a qualified technician. Keep this person's information easily available in case something goes wrong.

There are some things that you can check yourself. Make sure that no birds have built nests in the generator exhaust pipe and that no animals have made the generator home. It is a good idea to do a thorough visual inspection weekly to prevent any minor issues from becoming major problems.





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