



Nov.-Dec. 2021

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January KY conference offers much to new and advanced growers

From the Kentucky Horticulture Council

Registration for the 2022 Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference, scheduled for January 3rd-4th, with pre-conference events on Sunday, January 2nd, is now available. This will be the first time this event has been held at the Sloan Convention Center in Bowling Green, KY (<https://www.bgky.org/convention-center>).

The annual Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference is the premier event for Kentucky produce growers to interact and gain valuable production and marketing training. The Kentucky State Horticultural Society (KSHS), Kentucky Vegetable Growers Association (KVGA), Organic Association of Kentucky (OAK), Kentucky Wineries Association (KWA) and Kentucky Horticulture Council (KHC) in cooperation with University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment (UK), Kentucky State University College of Agriculture, Communities and the Environment (KSU), and Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) have planned an excellent program with more than 75 speakers covering both general interest and specialized production topics. The trade show will have more than 60 exhibitors for attendees to visit about products and services. The full conference program, information about pesticide CEUs, and registration instructions are available on the conference website at <https://kyhortcouncil.org/2022-ky-fruit-vegetable-conference/>.

The conference will include a general session as well as sessions on

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Coming up

Dec. 14 - Crop Insurance Webinar, Whole Farm Revenue Protection. 12:30-1 p.m. EST. Brought to you by the Kentucky Horticulture Council. [Click here](#) to register.

Dec. 15 - Western KY Commercial Horticulture Conference, 8:30 a.m. CST, at Fairview Produce Auction, Pembroke. [Click here](#) for details.

Dec. 28 - Crop Insurance Video: Vegetable, Fruit and Nut Crops. 12:30-1 p.m. EST. Brought to you by the Kentucky Horticulture Council. Find the video on the [KHC Facebook page](#) or the [KHC YouTube page](#).

Jan. 24 - UK Cut Flower Virtual Short Course 4: Winter Integrated Pest Management. 6:30 p.m. EST. Contact [Alexis Sheffield](#) or [Kristin Hildabrand](#) for details.



Be sure to register for CSA Fair by December 15th

From the Kentucky Horticulture Council

Mark your calendars, the 3rd annual virtual Kentucky Proud CSA Fair will be February 25th-March 6th, 2022. This local food event will promote CSA offerings across Kentucky to the community members in their areas. CSA farmers, don't miss out on this free promotion. Learn more and register as a partner farm by December 15th at <https://form.jotform.com/213255139863156>.

Please contact Katie Harvey (katie@oak-ky.org),



the Organic Association of Kentucky's (OAK's) CSA program coordinator with any questions.

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protected agriculture production technologies, organic production, vegetable production (beginner and advanced), fruit production (beginner and advanced), and business management. New sessions added this year include MarketReady, farm-to-school, value-added production, and ag water. Other conference events include a Farmers Market Short Course organized by KDA, a crop insurance workshop organized by KHC and the Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KCARD), and a labor ready workshop offered by AgSafe, as well as the fruit grower and vegetable grower roundtable sessions.

"Kentucky specialty crop growers will be presenting, as well as Kentucky extension specialists and excellent out-of-state speakers," said KHC Executive Director Cindy Finneseth. "Growers enjoy hearing from other growers, so the conference will give them an opportunity to do that."

Out-of-state speakers include Brad Bergefurd, Horticulture Specialist, The Ohio State University, Piketon, OH; Dr. John Clark, Distinguished Professor, University of Arkansas; Dr. Chieri Kubota, Professor, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH; Dr. Dave Lockwood, Extension Fruit Specialist, University of Tennessee; Dr. John McMaine, Extension Specialist – Water Management, South Dakota State University; and Dr. Annette Wszelaki, Professor of Horticulture, University of Tennessee.

Pre-registration is available online through Eventbrite at <https://2022-ky-fruit-veg-conference.eventbrite.com> or by mailing in the meeting registration form by Friday, December 17th, 2021. After this date, you may continue to register online or on-site. The conference pre-registration fee is \$50 (or \$75 on site) and includes a year's membership in the KVGA, KSHS or OAK and full access to recorded content for a year after the meeting.

For registration questions call: 859-490-0889 or email: info@kyhortcouncil.org.

Safety Precautions

The following safety precautions will be taken to help us hold a safe event:

- Masks will be required in all indoor meeting spaces. Masks must cover the mouth and nose.
- Disposable masks and hand sanitizer will be available.
- Seating will be spaced out in the meeting rooms and at lunch. For example, there will be six people per table for lunch (tables typically seat eight).
- Podiums, mics, door handles, etc. will be sanitized throughout the day.
- We ask that all attendees social distance as much as possible between sessions and while visiting with exhibitors.
- Please monitor yourself for symptoms before arriving and do not attend if you are ill.

OAK offering reduced, free registrations for 2022 virtual conference

From the Organic Association of Kentucky (OAK)

The Organic Association of Kentucky's Virtual Conference will be held from January 27th-29th.

The virtual conference offers 1-hour sessions running from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST, live presentations, Q&A and opportunities to connect with other attendees. The event will include plenary keynotes, technical workshops and panel discussions with national and regional farmers and researchers. Recordings will be available after the conference. We'll be using Whova again for the virtual conference platform. With generous support from our sponsors and partners, OAK is able to offer reduced registrations as well as a free registration option for this virtual event. See all the details at <https://www.oak-ky.org/registration>.

Virtual Conference Registration

OAK Member: \$30 (by Dec. 31st)/\$35 (after Dec. 31st)
Non-Member: \$35 (by Dec. 31st)/\$40 (after Dec. 31st)
Student: \$25

Free Registration

With support from conference sponsors and partners OAK is able to offer scholarships to anyone who would like to attend the virtual event. Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), beginning,

KCARD releases Growing Your Farm and Food Business video series

From the KY Center for Agriculture and Rural Development

The [Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development \(KCARD\)](#) is releasing a series of five "Growing Your Farm and Food Business" videos to assist agricultural producers and food businesses with understanding business fundamentals, identifying grant opportunities, and developing a strategy to seek funding.

These videos will be available on [Facebook](#) as well as on the [KCARD website](#). The first video was released on November 30th and they will run every Tuesday and Thursday at noon EST. The series will wrap up on December 16th with a LIVE Q&A Zoom event with Myrisa Christy. Regis-



women or veteran farmers, agricultural professionals, students, KY farmers, farmers in the southeast region, and others working in the food and farming network in Kentucky are strongly encouraged to use this scholarship opportunity.

We share deep gratitude with the following partners who make it possible to offer scholarships: Southern SARE Kentucky State Model Program, Grow Appalachia, University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, Kentucky State University, High Mowing Organic Seeds and Central KY Ag Credit.

OAK's in-person conferences

We invite you to our upcoming in-person events in the 2022 Conference Series. Register today at <https://www.oak-ky.org/2022-conference>.

March 17-18: In-person conference in Hopkinsville, KY at Christian County Cooperative Extension.
April 8: In-person conference in Burlington, KY at Boone County Cooperative Extension. Full agendas will be available in January.

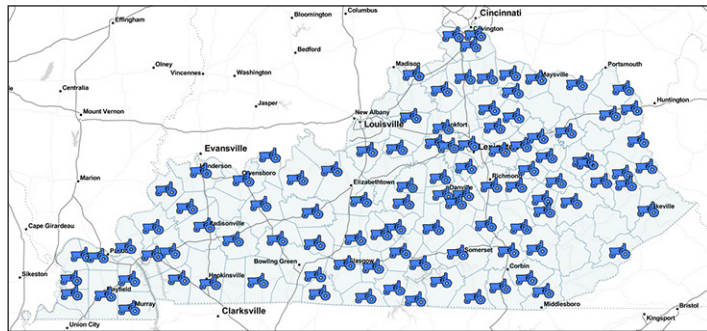
A green graphic titled "GROWING YOUR FARM AND FOOD BUSINESS VIDEO SERIES". It lists six videos with their release dates and times: Video 1- Basic Business Planning (Nov 30), Video 2- Understanding Financials (Dec 2), Video 3- State Funding (Dec 7), Video 4- Federal Funding (Dec 9), Video 5- Writing Grants (Dec 14), and Webinar 6- LIVE Q&A with KCARD (Dec 16). It also includes a call to action: "Learn the steps to developing a business plan, get tips on marketing your products, and learn about state and federal funding available for agricultural businesses and producers." A small image of a laptop screen shows a website with the text "Available on the KCARD website and Facebook page." The page number "3" is at the bottom.

ter for the live Q&A at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/217177201857>.

Food safety publication, maps, marketing profiles among new and updated CCD resources

The Center for Crop Diversification recently published a new produce food safety fact sheet, [The Kentucky Produce Safety Program \(CCD-PFS-6\)](#). Two marketing profiles, [Pick-your-own \(U-pick\) Marketing \(CCD-MP-3\)](#) and [Market Research for Value-added Products \(CCD-MP-15\)](#) have been updated.

Also, the Shared Equipment map, part of the [Geographic Horticulture Directory of Kentucky](#) and the [Agricultural Service Providers Directory](#), has been updated. It now includes 98 locations where Kentucky growers can access shared-use



The CCD's Shared Equipment map allows growers to locate equipment near their farms.

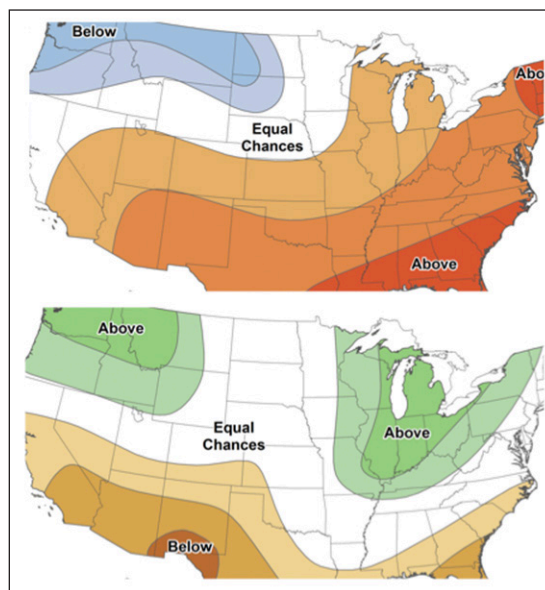
equipment, up from 68. The Commercial Kitchens map, also part of the [Agricultural Service Providers Directory](#), has been updated, and now includes 56 kitchens, up from 42. For these and many other resources, visit the CCD website at www.uky.edu/CCD.

Warmer, wetter than average conditions predicted through February

By Joshua Knight, Sr. Extension Associate, Horticulture

The NOAA's Climate Prediction Center is forecasting an above average chance for warmer than average temperatures in December. Longer range averages also predict this pattern to hold over the next three months (December 2021 through February 2022). According to the maps, this pattern will be consistent throughout the southern half of the continental U.S., as well as New England.

The precipitation picture is very much the same, with forecasting for December expecting above average rates of precipitation for the month of December as well as for the three-month period



Temperature Probability, Dec 2021-Feb 2022
Image: NOAA Climate.gov, 18 Nov 2021

Precipitation Probability, Dec 2021-Feb 2022
Image: NOAA Climate.gov, 18 Nov 2021

of December, January and February. As shown in the maps, this is being driven by a pattern over the Great Lakes.

See [UKAg Weather's Long Range Outlooks](#) for a variety of forecasts of temperature and precipitation probabilities.

Save the date: Kentucky Green Industry Conference set for January 24th-26th

The Kentucky Green Industry Conference, presented by the Kentucky Nursery & Landscape Association (KNLA), will be held January 24th-26th at the Hardin County Extension Center in Elizabeth-

town. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.knla.org/2022-KY-Green-Industry-Conference>. Please contact KNLA at 502-330-8300 or info@knla.org with questions.

UK seeking vegetable growers to participate in brief survey

By Dr. W. Garrett Owen, Assistant Extension Professor, Floriculture, Greenhouse Food Crops, and Controlled Environments

The Controlled-Environment Horticulture (CEH) lab at the University of Kentucky is seeking growers of vegetables in greenhouses, high tunnels/hoop houses, or in-ground farm fields that would be willing to participate in a 5-minute Qualtrics survey that aims to identify popular vegetable varieties cultivated throughout Kentucky. All responses will remain anonymous by researchers at UK. Results from this survey will direct research efforts and help identify extension priorities focused on vegetable varieties. To access the survey, go to https://uky.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6JwEB6g8NeSa9L0, or scan the QR code above. The survey will close on June 30th, 2022. For additional information or if you have questions, please contact Dr. W. Garrett



Vegetable Variety Survey

University of Kentucky researchers are seeking voluntary input from individuals or businesses producing vegetables and/or vegetable transplants. This 5-minute industry survey aims to identify research and Extension priorities focused on vegetable varieties.

If you or your business currently grow or are interested in growing vegetables and/or vegetable transplants, and are willing to participate in this short survey, please scan QR code below.

The survey will close on June 30, 2022, so please provide your input today!

For more information or questions, contact:
Dr. W. Garrett Owen at wgowen@uky.edu

Owen at wgowen@uky.edu.

KY Hort Council, UK request input from flower, vegetable growers

By Delia Scott, Extension Associate, Greenhouse and Controlled Environments

Do you grow flowers or vegetables in a greenhouse or controlled environment?

Please take a few minutes to complete a quick grower survey for the Kentucky Horticulture Council (KHC) and the University of Kentucky (UK) to assess the needs of floriculture/food crops, greenhouse and controlled environment growers across the state.



Controlled environment production can be under glass or plastic, using various technologies and systems to intensively manage crop growing conditions.

Your response will help direct efforts in supporting the state floriculture and vegetable industry. It should take less than 10 minutes and all indi-

vidual responses will be kept confidential. Two easy ways to get to the survey:

Click the hyperlink below and go directly to the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KY-2021CEASurvey>, or scan the QR code at the left with your phone to go to the survey.

Thanks for reading!

If you know someone who would enjoy our newsletter, or you're not subscribed yet yourself, visit www.uky.edu/ccd/newsletter and click "Subscribe Now." Or call Brett Wolff at 859-218-4384, or Christy Cassady at 859-257-1477. Stay up to date with the Center on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ccduky/>

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