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August 2001

### The NEBLINE, August 2001

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## Science – It's For Everyone!

**Do you know that science is a part of your everyday life?  
When you see that flowers don't grow when it snows,  
That all kites need a wind that blows,  
Some birds are red, some blue, some brown,  
And for a wheel to roll, it must be round!  
That's science and it is everywhere and for everyone!**

Arlene Hanna  
*Extension Associate*

Science helps us gather facts, think critically and make the right decision. We learn to use our senses to obtain information about ourselves and the world around us. We can communicate with one another. We predict the future by using past observations. We investigate, interpret and make conclusions, then evaluate. These steps are all part of the science process.

Elementary grades are a good time for capturing children's interest in science. Lancaster County youth development programs and 4-H School Enrichment are doing their part to educate students in science. Each year, over 15,000 Lancaster County youngsters participate in the following science programs:

Smelly stuff—trash—things we don't need anymore! These are ideas that come to the minds of second graders when they hear the word "garbage."

**GARBOLOGY** welcomes students to the world of solid waste management and the three R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Youngsters develop an increased awareness of garbage – where it comes from and where it goes, the problems it presents, and possible solutions. This curriculum is revised and set to the National and Nebraska Science Standards.

"I recycle because of my children. They have taught me



loads of things. I am in real trouble if I throw away a pop can," laughs the mother of a Rousseau student.

Worms that eat garbage? It's true! About 1,000 red wrigglers can eat up to three to five pounds of kitchen scraps a week. Then they'll give you worm castings that can be added to potting or garden soil for richer plantings. Students from all over Lancaster County are indeed, learning a new way to compost – **VERMICOMPOSTING**.

Soft and furry with very large appetites! Things that go "cheep" in the night. The miracle of life unfolds in **EMBRYOLOGY** as third graders study life cycles. Students and teachers are responsible for the care of fertile eggs throughout the twenty-one day incubation period, then...baby chicks are hatched right in the classroom. This curriculum is revised and set to the National and Nebraska Science Standards



and is a core subject in the science curriculum of the Lincoln Public Schools.

"This is the most popular science program I teach in my classroom. Students learn responsibility and an appreciation for life." (Teacher from Belmont)

**BLUE SKY BELOW MY FEET** links space technology to the everyday interest of fourth grade students. By using features from the space shuttle program as working models, youngsters learn how forces, fibers and food affect their daily lives on earth and astronauts while in space. Youth learn about gravity, taste space food and communicate with NASA via the Internet. With the exploration of Mars and the building of the new space station Alpha, students become globally aware of their place and responsibility in the Universe.

With an emphasis on quantity and quality, **4-H WATER RICHES** looks at the complexities on one of our most precious natural resources – water. Fifth grade students determine ways to manage our water supply and commit to the preservation and conservation of this natural resource.

Each year, approximately 3,000 fifth graders attend **EARTH WELLNESS FESTIVAL**, an environmental education experience sponsored by ten Lancaster County education resource agencies. Youngsters explore, create and discover the relationships and interdependency of land, water, air, and living resources, identify the human impact on

our planet, and recognize how they can enrich the world around them. The earth wellness festival's Kit For Kids is revised and set to the National and State Science Standards. The water and wetlands section of the curriculum is identified as a core subject in the science curriculum of the Lincoln Public Schools.

**HEALTHY ME! WHAT'S ON YOUR PLATE? CLEAN HANDS DETECTIVE!** These are just a few enrichment opportunities that the Nutrition Education Program offers to selected schools and grade levels in Lancaster County. Karen Wobig, Extension Assistant and presenter of these programs reflects, "It is exciting to hear what students have learned about healthy eating...they are able to tell me all the steps for proper hand washing, including the 20-second rule for scrubbing with soap."

As you can see, Lancaster County youth development programs are offering educational opportunities in science for our youngsters. If you wish to encourage children's study of science out-of-school, you can participate in the growing number of informal science activities at zoos, museums, nature centers, national parks and community organizations such as 4-H clubs. Watch for your student's participation in 4-H School Enrichment.

It's science for everyone!!



### In this issue...

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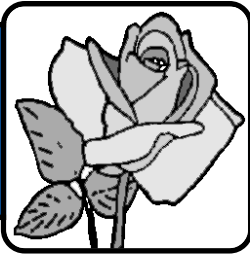
#### Community Focus

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Lancaster County 4-H Council  
University of Nebraska  
Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County  
444 Cherry Creek Road • Suite A  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68528-1507

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## Horticulture

### Indoor Trees

The houseplant is usually a small, well-kept foliage or flowering plant sitting on the windowsill. But many of our common houseplants are full-scale trees in their native habitat.

If space is available, large specimens of these plants can be used as indoor trees. Specialty plant stores often have access to large plants that can be used as effective room accents. Or you might consider growing your own.

The date palm can grow up to 100 feet outdoors, but a five-foot specimen is ideal for indoors. Plants set on a pedestal have a definite tree effect. For optimum growth, place them near any sunny east, south or west window, or add supplemental light. Room temperatures between 62 and 75 degrees Fahrenheit and moderate humidity are ideal. When old fronds turn yellow, remove them at the trunk with a sharp pruning tool to maintain an attractive stem. There are several types of Ficus that can provide a wide variety of large specimen plants that quickly grow into tree form. The fiddle leaf fig produces leathery, deep green leaves about 15 inches long, with crinkled margins on stout stems. The common rubber tree produces slightly smaller, 6 to 11-inch leaves that are bright olive-green with a touch of red along their straight margin. Well branched specimens of either plant form trees



with little effort. Both the fiddle leaf fig and rubber plant respond well to bright sunny locations, and often drop foliage if light levels drop. Supplemental artificial light will help maintain foliage quality, as will uniform soil moisture. As with the palms, temperatures of 62 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit and moderate humidity are helpful.

The weeping fig, another Ficus, probably has the greatest potential for becoming a satisfactory indoor tree. As the plant matures it branches freely and develops a spreading, tree-like form similar to outdoor landscape trees.

Rapid changes in a weeping fig's environment often causes severe leaf drop. Some leaf drop is normal after the plant is brought home. The severity of the drop can be reduced by making certain the plant receives plenty of bright daytime light and adequate water. Rapid changes also may trigger leaf drop after the plant is established, so it is important to be consistent in your treatment of the plant. Washing foliage regularly with a damp cloth will maintain good plant health.

Citrus plants (orange, lemon,

See **TREES** on page 4

## Perennials with Colorful Foliage

Most perennials are grown for their attractive flowers. They bloom for a few days or weeks, but are green, unassuming plants during the remainder of the growing season. There are, however, some perennials that have colorful foliage. These perennials add color to the garden from spring to fall. The following is a partial list of perennials that have attractive foliage.

Hostas are a favorite foliage perennial. There are hundreds of hosta varieties. The varieties differ in leaf color, leaf shape, plant size and flower color. The foliage may be green, blue, gold, or variegated. The leaves may be long and narrow, nearly round, or heart-shaped. Hosta varieties vary in height from 2 inches to 4 feet. Flowers may be white, blue, or purple. Some varieties have fragrant flowers.

Lungworts or pulmonarias are clump-forming perennials that possess distinctive white or silver spots on their foliage. Lungworts do best in partial to heavy shade.



Sedums are fleshy-leaved perennials that are grown chiefly for their late summer bloom. However, several varieties have colorful foliage. Sedums are easy to grow, tolerate dry conditions, and have few pests. They perform best in full sun and well-drained soils.

A perennial with burgundy foliage is *Penstemon digitalis* 'Husker Red.' 'Husker Red' grows 2 1/2 to 3 feet tall. It blooms in early summer. The flowers are white with a pink tinge. The foliage is burgundy or maroon-red. It does best in well-drained soils and full sun. As you might guess, 'Husker Red'

was introduced by the University of Nebraska. It was selected as the 1996 Perennial Plant of the Year by the Perennial Plant Association.

Coral bells have been grown for many years for their showy flowers. In recent years, their popularity has soared due to the introduction of several new varieties with attractive foliage. One of the most popular varieties is *Heuchera micrantha* 'Palace Purple.' In fact, it was selected as the 1991 Perennial Plant of the Year. 'Palace Purple' has maple-shaped leaves that are greenish-purple to dark purple. Plants are 15 to 18 inches tall with a similar spread. White flowers are produced in summer. Coral bells perform best in well-drained soils and partial shade to full sun.

Other perennials with colorful foliage include snow-on-the-mountain, ajuga, lamb's-ears, sage, houttuynia and artemisia.

Consider planting perennials with colorful foliage in your garden this year. (MJF)

## Harvesting Guide for Fruits and Vegetables

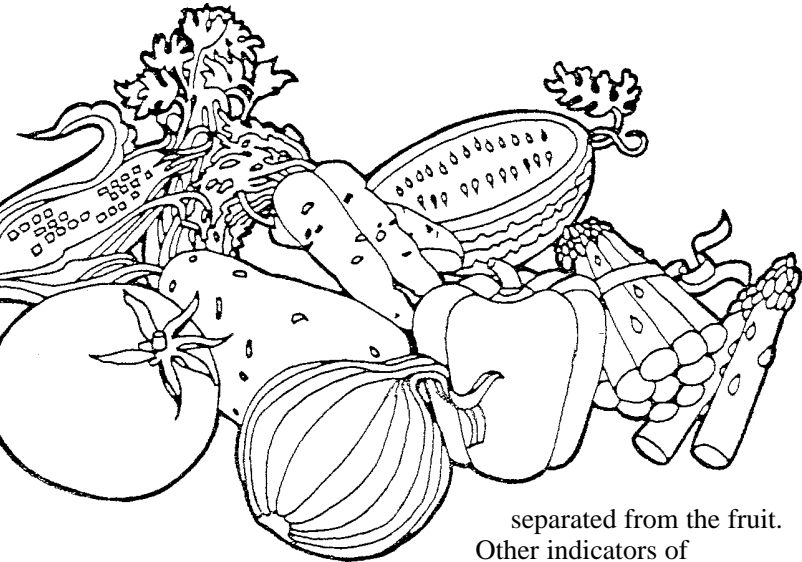
While some fruits and vegetables show unmistakable signs, the proper time to harvest many crops require a little more knowledge and experience. Guidelines for harvesting various fruits and vegetables are listed below.

**PEACH**-Ground color is the best guide for maturity. Harvest when ground color or the color of the fruit's skin changes from green to yellow. Disregard the areas that have turned red, because it is not a reliable index of maturity.

**PEAR**-Harvest when the ground color changes from dark green to a yellowish green and before the fruit is tree ripe. An additional guide may be when the fruit separates from the twig with an upward twist of the fruit and when the lenticels (spots on fruit surface), which are green on immature fruit, becomes brown.

**RASPBERRY**-Harvest when the fruit is full color and separates easily from the center.

**TOMATO**-For peak quality,



harvest 4 to 6 days after fruits are fully colored. They will lose firmness if overripe.

**EGGPLANT**-Harvest when the fruit is firm and a glossy purple to black in color and 3 to 5 inches in diameter.

**MUSKMELON**-The fruit of muskmelon or cantaloupe are mature when the stem slips easily from the melon with slight pressure. The melon is not ripe if the stem has to be forcibly

separated from the fruit. Other indicators of maturity are based on touch, appearance and aroma. The flower end of the melon, the end opposite the stem, should be slightly soft. The skin between the netting will turn from green to yellow. A ripe melon will produce a strong musky aroma.

**WATERMELON**-Harvest when the melon is full sized and the underside of the melons turns from a greenish white to a

See **VEGETABLES** on page 4

### Horticulture information center

NUFACTS  
24 hours a day, 7 days a week  
1-800-832-5441; or  
441-7188 in the Lincoln area



To listen to a NUFACTS information center message, call the number above on a touch-tone phone, then enter a three-digit number listed below. Call 441-7180 to receive a brochure with all the NUFACTS message topics. (MJF)

#### NUFACTS

- 119 Powdery Mildew on Ornamentals
- 127 Tree Watering
- 134 Yellowing and Dropping Leaves
- 183 Poison Ivy Control
- 187 White Grubs in Turf
- 200 Broadleaf Weed Control
- 203 Nutsedge in Lawns
- 216 Moving Houseplants Indoors
- 239 Apple Harvesting
- 243 Harvesting Peaches and Pears
- 267 Water Management
- 273 Fall Vegetable Gardening
- 277 Squash Vine Borer
- 278 Vegetable Pest Control
- 279 Tomato Problems
- 283 Drying Herbs
- 284 Sweet Potatoes
- 287 Harvesting Melons
- 290 Weed Control in Garden
- 292 Rabbit Control in Garden

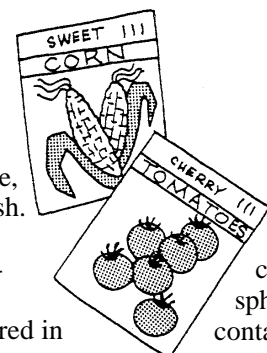
## Storing Extra Seeds

Seeds can survive several years when given the proper environment. Although optimum storage life varies among species, most seeds will survive at least two-years, with some lasting for centuries. Whether they are leftovers from the seed you purchased, or seeds you have gathered from your own plants, with a little care and thought, it is a simple task to save seeds for use in next year's garden. Unused seeds that keep for at least five years are broc-

coli, cabbage, cauliflower, cucumber, kohlrabi, lettuce, pumpkin, radish and squash.

The most important storage factor is low moisture content. Most seeds readily absorb water if stored in a damp environment. In a proper planting environment, this would lead to germination and growth. In storage this leads to molding and rot. Store seeds at a relative humidity of less than 65 percent.

Seed life can be further extended by placing seeds in a



sealed container. This reduces the oxygen content and creates a controlled atmosphere. The best containers for seed storage are zip-lock plastic bags or glass jars with tight fitting lids. To avoid identification problems, leave seeds in their original packets or envelopes. Containers may be kept in a refrigerator or in any cool, dark, dry place. (MJF)

# Cicadas: Mid-Summer Night's Screamers

Barb Ogg  
Extension Educator

At the extension office, we are sometimes asked to help solve a problem that has no good solution. A couple questions about cicadas have fit into this category.

The first was from a lady who had moved to Lincoln from a very large metropolitan area back east. She wanted to know what to spray on her trees to get rid of the screaming cicadas because they were interfering with her sleep. She had never heard cicadas before she moved to Lincoln and the noise was driving her nuts.

The other call was from a student representing a theatrical group scheduled to give a play on East Campus during the evening hours. To their dismay, the actors discovered that the cicada din started up just about the time their play was to begin and continued throughout the time of the entire play. Again, they wanted to know how to stop (even temporarily) the cicada screaming so their audience could hear the play.

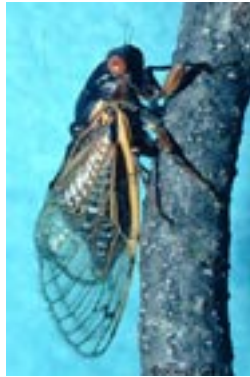
Many of us who have grown up in the Midwest are used to the sound of cicadas; we might even look forward to it because it signals the changing

seasons—the dog-days of summer. (One species, the dog-day cicada is most appropriately named.) For some of us, it is hard to believe that this noise can be annoying to anyone.

On the flip side, it is pretty amazing how much noise each cicada can make. When you have several trees in your yard, with a half-dozen singing males in each tree, plus those in your neighbor's trees, it can be pretty noisy.

Singing cicadas are exclusively male. The males attract female cicadas (who are dumb, but not deaf) for the purpose of mating and passing on their genes to the next generation of cicadas. As insects go, cicadas are very robust, and built well to produce noise. The noise is produced by the action of muscles that vibrate a pair of drum-like organs in the male cicada's body. An air cavity acts as a resonator and connects to the outside through a pair of tiny holes. Because each male is competing with other males for females, it is likely to lose out if it isn't the loudest in the tree. Therefore, you can see that there is huge selection pressure for males to sing loudly.

On the whole, cicadas are fairly benign. Immature cicadas spend their entire time sucking



Cicada

juices out of tree roots, but they don't seem to do much injury to trees.

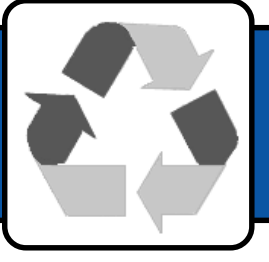
Injury to trees is usually blamed on the females who slit branches with their ovipositor in order to deposit eggs. During outbreaks of the periodical cicada (13 or 17 year locust), branches of small trees can be seriously damaged. Mature trees can withstand more damage and treatment is rarely needed.

We don't recommend insecticidal treatments to kill cicadas merely to get rid of the noise. (It's not likely to work anyway because male cicadas are mobile and fly from tree to tree.) We don't recommend cutting down trees, either.

So how do we help the folks who can't stand the noise? We suggest earplugs to enhance sleep. White noise like a fan might help drown out cicada singing. A good public address system may help people hosting outdoor events during July and August.

Unfortunately, there sometimes aren't good solutions for every problem, but call us when you do have an insect pest problem. Most of the time we can help.

## Environmental Focus



# Cicada Killers and Steel-Blue Cricket Killers

There are several species of wasps that construct nests in the ground in the Midwest, including Nebraska. The cicada killer wasp is alarming to some because it may be up to two inches long. It is black with yellow markings on the thorax and abdomen and rusty colored wings. Another species, sometimes referred to as the steel-blue cricket killer, is about one inch long and completely black with iridescent blue wings.



Cicada Killer

Both of these species are solitary wasps; which means that they live independently and do not depend on other members of a colony to share in the raising of young or the maintaining of a nest. Solitary wasps are beneficial because they paralyze insects or spiders and place these insects in the cells that they dig for their offspring.

Female cicada killer wasps capture annual cicadas in July and August and place them in cells located at the ends of tunnels they have dug in the

ground. Each tunnel is about the size of a quarter and extends 24 inches or more into the ground. One or two paralyzed cicadas are placed in each cell, and a single egg deposited before the cell is closed by the female, who flies away, never to return. The wasp grubs, emerge from the egg, feed on the paralyzed cicadas and develop into wasps that emerge the following summer.

Unlike yellow jackets and other social wasps, solitary wasps are not aggressive. The cicada killer, like other solitary wasps, has the capability to sting, but won't unless handled or threatened. Only female wasps have the ability to sting. Stings inflicted by solitary wasps are usually not severe but reaction varies with each individual.

Solitary wasps are generally beneficial and nests that are in out-of-the-way locations should be left alone. For more information about bees and wasps, contact the Lancaster County Extension Office (441-7180). (BPO)

# Leaving it to Beaver May Not be the Best Solution

Dallas Virchow  
Extension Assistant for  
Wildlife Damage Control, UNL

Those buck-toothed beings we call beaver are the animal world's answer to the buzz saw. They are quirkily cute, ingeniously industrious and, sometimes, pretty problematic. For instance, how about when mom's riverside fruit tree gets toppled by these nighttime lumberjacks? A new NebGuide "Controlling Beaver Damage" can offer some help in just such situations.

The beaver is well-known both as an orthodontic wonder and as a workaholic. One beaver can topple several trees in an evening, if he so desires!

The beaver is less known for his remarkable swimming ability. This is probably because, on land, our largest North American rodent looks as ungainly as a pregnant duck! But in the water his body seems to float effortlessly and dive gracefully, despite his roly-poly body build. Standing along-shore, we might wonder "When will he come up for air?" The answer is "20 minutes!" An enlarged liver that enables him to store a lot of oxygen helps.

Flaps of skin behind his teeth also allow him to swim with sticks clenched between large incisors without also gargling all that pond water! Other skin flaps close off the inside of a beaver's ears and nose as he turns acrobat through

that fluid medium.

A split nail on one of the hind toes of his very large and webbed hind foot is used to groom oil. This is collected from glands under the tail and is combed through the thick, rich fur.

It's this same fur that led the species into a drastic decline 175 years ago. Actually, this resilient fur-bearer was never in much danger of total extinction, even during those fur trade heydays. Even 200 years of trapping prior to this period, by native Americans and explorers alike, the ubiquitous beaver remained entrenched far from the reaches of settlement and exploration.

The seemingly dogged determination with which beaver cut trees and build their homes is also the homeowner's greatest obstacle in getting the beaver to manage his menu. Several remedies are available including exclusion, taste repellents, habitat manipulation and trapping.

Perimeter fences with the bottom portion buried will discourage the beaver. Sometimes these can be placed at the water's



Beavers may girdle trees and damage them seriously.



Image courtesy of Nabaskaland Magazine/Nebraska Game and Parks. Used by Permission

edge rather than around the plants to be protected. Wire mesh cylinders and even alkyl paint mixed with sand will

discourage beaver from gnawing individual trees. You can even use color coordinated paint and plants!

Flooding is an additional problem to felling and gnawing. A pond owner can place large perforated plastic tubes with wire cages around them to keep water below flooding level. These are designed so beaver do

not attempt to stop the water that enters them.

Lastly, body grip and leg hold traps as well as snares are used by professional damage control personnel or trappers to remove all or most beaver from an area. Depending upon the situation, trapping may be either the first or last method used in controlling damage caused by beaver.

The NebGuide "Controlling Beaver Damage" can be found at the publications page of the University of Nebraska's Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources web site located at <http://www.ianr.unl.edu/>. For hard copies ask for G01-1434-A at the Lancaster County Extension Office.



Beaver shavings — tell-tale signs that a beaver has been at work.



## Farm Views

### Are You Looking for the Latest Wheat Variety Test Results?



Internet users have access to University of Nebraska variety test results as soon as the data is compiled by accessing it on the World Wide Web. The Lancaster County Extension Web Pages provide a convenient link to this information from the Nebraska Production Agriculture pages. Simply access the Ag/Acreage home page at <http://lancaster.unl.edu/ag/> then click on the Crops button under blue state of Nebraska icon (Nebraska Production Agriculture). On the Crops page, click on Small grains, then on "2001 - Nebraska Fall-Sown Small Grain Variety Tests." The wheat testing site results are listed individually or one may select a map of testing sites and click on the locations of interest. (TD)

### Sprayer Nozzle Tip Selection Fact Sheet Available

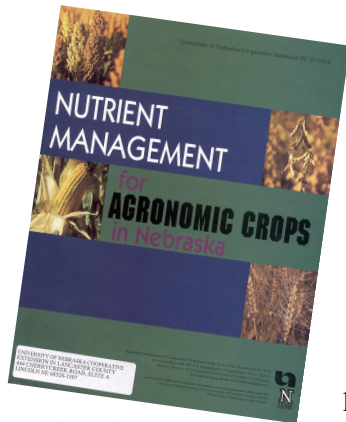
Have you ever had to buy a set of sprayer tips but weren't sure which material (brass, polymer, stainless steel, etc.) to buy? Do you know how to pick a set of nozzles that will apply 20 gallons per acre, with nozzles spaced every 20 inches on the boom, while traveling 5 mph and at a pressure that will give full coverage while keeping spray drift to a minimum?

A new Lancaster County Extension in-house fact sheet on Sprayer Nozzle Tip Selection has been developed to help with these and other questions. This fact sheet discusses how to select spray tip materials that will provide optimum wear life as well as which tip(s) will provide the output capacity, spray coverage, and drift management required for the situation. Mathematical equations useful for selecting nozzles, calculating output, correcting pressure, etc. are also presented. Ask for In-house fact sheet 289-01. (TD)

### Nutrient Management Guide for Crops Published

The University of Nebraska has published a comprehensive nutrient management guide that deserves to be in the library of every crop producer. This 166 page guide, extension circular EC 01-155-S contains in-depth information on N, P, K, Ca and Mg, S, micronutrients, pH, and liming, manure and organic residual management, Soil testing and nutrient recommendations. It also contains specific fertility management recommendations for: corn, winter wheat, grain and silage sorghum, oats and spring grains, alfalfa, dry edible beans, soybeans, sugar beets, sunflower, millet, grass pastures and haylands, popcorn, and potatoes.

I personally have read through this guide and would say, unequivocally, that it is the most complete and useful source of fertility and nutrient management information written for crop producers that I have seen in my 25 years as a professional working in agriculture. The guide can be picked up at the Extension office. This publication sells for \$25.00. (TD)



### TREES

*continued from page 2*

and grapefruit) are seven to eight feet tall and create tree-like shapes as they branch freely to develop a full crown of foliage. Their waxy, bright green leaves are several inches long and remain on the plants all year. Under the right cultural conditions these plants may produce creamy white, sweet-scented flowers and colorful, edible fruit. Like all flowering plants, citrus need plenty of sun, so putting

them in an eastern or southern window works well. They need to be kept warm in the winter with temperatures between 62 and 72 degrees Fahrenheit.

If you have a vacant corner or bare wall, consider one of these large foliage plants to add color, variety and interest during the year. When summer arrives, these indoor trees can be moved to your outdoor living space, where they will benefit from the additional light and humidity while you enjoy their color and beauty. (MJF)

## Safety Should Always Come First

Farming is one of the most dangerous occupations in the state of Nebraska. Youth and adults need to be careful and cautious when operating, maintaining, or moving equipment and machinery not only in the field, but also around the farmstead and buildings. Working with animals can also be very dangerous as there are many injuries every year caused by animals. Dave Morgan, the University of Nebraska Safety Specialist, has several tips for staying safe while working on the farm.

### Be especially careful when children are around:

- Before moving vehicles, equipment, or animals walk around and make sure children aren't nearby.
- Establish safe play areas for older children, which lessens the likelihood of being suffocated while playing in grain bins or watching moving grain or being trampled when moving animals.
- Don't let kids ride in tractors or combines unless the equipment has a buddy seat and

seatbelt. Also don't allow small children in animal pens unsupervised.

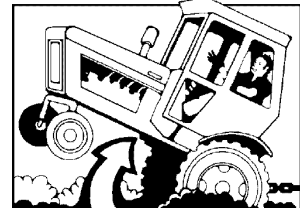
- Auger and machinery entanglement is common among 5 to 10-year-olds, so teach them not to approach operating machinery.

- To avoid overturns, older children should be taught safe operation skills. These same children should be instructed on animal behavior and proper animal handling techniques. Reinforce safety practices often.

### Encourage other adults to stay safe:

- About 25 percent of adult victims aren't discovered for more than two hours after an accident occurs. Carry a cellular phone or two-way radio, and stay updated on family members' or co-workers' work schedules and intended locations.
- Always call 911 before attempting to rescue someone. Never enter confined spaces without proper ventilation, a

lifeline and someone holding the lifeline who is prepared to pull the rescuer out. Confined spaces include well and manure pits, silos, grain bins, cisterns, some animal pens and storage tanks.



### Make sure machinery is well-maintained:

- Repair or replace damaged guards and shields, gates, fences and chutes.
- To prevent high-pressure injection injuries, replace damaged hydraulic hoses and fittings.
- Check power take-off shaft shields for proper function and make sure the tractor's master shield is in place and works properly.

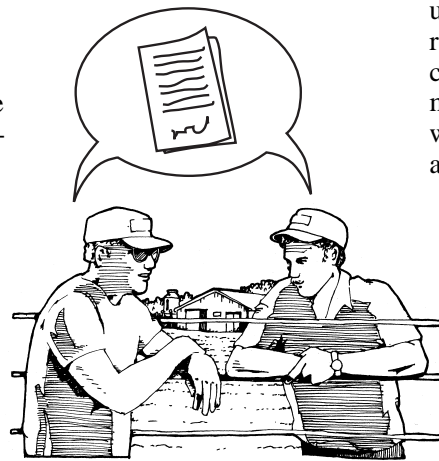
The extension office has several publications that address farm and animal safety for youth and adults. For more information on farm safety please contact Lance Cummins-Brown at the Lancaster County extension office at 441-7180 or e-mail at [lbrown4@unl.edu](mailto:lbrown4@unl.edu). (LCB)

## Terminating Farm Leases

The turnover rate for rental land is very small in Nebraska, averaging about eight percent each year. Surveys show that the average landlord-tenant relationship lasts 15 years. However, due to various circumstances or changes in plans, occasionally a landowner or tenant may opt to terminate a lease. The timing and actions necessary to terminate a lease is dependent on whether the lease is written or oral.

Oral leases are legally presumed to be year-to-year leases. A year-to-year lease has no fixed time period and is automatically renewed for another year until proper notice has been given to the tenant by the landowner that the lease is terminated. Most farm leases in Nebraska are unwritten year-to-year leases.

For year-to-year leases, the Nebraska Supreme Court has ruled that the lease year begins on March 1. Notice to a tenant to vacate under an oral year-to-year lease (legally referred to as



a "notice to quit") must be given six months in advance of the end of the lease, or no later than August 31.

Written leases are in effect only for the period specified in the lease itself, which could be one year, five years, etc. For written leases, no notice is required from the landlord to the tenant that the lease will not be renewed unless the lease specifically states that notice of termination is required. Unless it contains a renewal clause, the lease automatically terminates at the end of the lease period. The tenant generally has no right to have a written lease renewed

unless the lease contains a renewal clause. If a tenant continues farming the land by mutual consent after the end of a written lease but without signing a new written lease, a year-to-year lease is automatically established by implication. On holdover leases, the lease date is established by when the lease began in the original written lease rather than automatically being March 1.

A written lease is generally preferable to a verbal lease because it provides a written record of the lease provisions. In addition, the March-to-February lease year for year-to-year leases may not be appropriate for fall-planted crops.

For more information about farm lease termination, talk to an attorney or refer to NF 91-42 Farm Lease Termination by Dr. David Aiken, Extension Water and Agricultural Law Specialist. This publication is available only from the University of Nebraska - IANR website at: <http://www.ianr.unl.edu/pubs/farmmgmt/nf42.htm>. Source NF 91-42. (TD)

### VEGETABLES

*continued from page 2*

buttery yellow or cream. This color change is more noticeable on the dark green skinned varieties. In addition, the fruit tends to lose its slick appearance on the top and become dull when ripe. Thumping or tapping the melon is generally not a good indicator of ripeness. The browning of the curled tendril attached to the vine near the melon is also not reliable. In some varieties the tendril may

turn brown 7 to 10 days before the melon is ripe.

**SUMMER SQUASH-** Zucchini and scallop squash should be harvested when young and tender. Harvest zucchini, crookneck and straight neck squash when 2 inches in diameter and 4 to 8 inches long. Scallop types are best harvested when they are 3 inches in diameter.

**SPAGHETTI SQUASH-** Harvest spaghetti squash when the fruit changes color from ivory white to golden yellow.

### WINTER SQUASH-

Squash are mature the skin is firm and glossy. A thumbnail will not easily penetrate a mature fruit. The portion of the fruit resting on the ground will be cream to orange in color.

**PUMPKIN-**Harvest pumpkins when they are fully colored and skins have hardened enough to resist puncture by thumbnail. Harvest before killing frost.

**SWEET POTATO-**Harvest in late fall after first light frost. (MJF)

# Some Words on Water

Concern about water quality often leads consumers to ask questions such as "What is in my water?" or "Is my drinking water safe?"

All water from natural sources contains dissolved substances. These substances are often called contaminants, especially when the amounts present are at possibly harmful or problem levels. The substances present in water can result from either natural processes or human activities. At low concentrations, many do not cause known harmful effects and may, in fact, be beneficial. Research has shown some substances may be harmful only when present at high enough concentrations.

The only way to know if the water you use for drinking and cooking contains potentially harmful substances is to have it tested. This testing determines what substances are present and their concentration levels.

In most cases, testing a private water supply is a decision made by the water user. Testing a private water supply is not required by current regulations except in cases where state licensing may be required for a specific activity.

The table below lists problems found in water supplies, as well as the appropriate tests to request. This table should be used as a guideline only. Consult an expert if you suspect any contaminant which could present an

immediate or long-term health risk. Nebraska Health and Human Services System Department of Regulation and Licensure staff can provide advice on what analyses to request. Staff from City-County Health Departments and independent commercial laboratories also can provide assistance.

For detailed information on several contaminants listed above, read individual University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension NebGuides on drinking water and bacteria, nitrate-nitrogen, methemoglobinemia, lead, copper, man-made chemicals, hard water, sulfates and hydrogen sulfide, iron and manganese, and fluoride. (DJ)

## Acreage Insights



### The 2001 Acreage Owners Expo

The 2001 Acreage Owners Expo, a one day symposium for acreage and small farm owners, is scheduled for Saturday, August 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Agricultural Research and Development Center (ARDC) near Mead Nebraska.

In the past this program was held in February or March, but increased attendance and the desire for educational tours prompted the August date.

The Expo still has a full day of educational programs at the ARDC headquarters building but will also feature a series of guided tours featuring landscaping, pond management, windbreaks and turf management.

For more information, contact Lancaster County Cooperative Extension, 444 Cherrycreek Road, (402) 441-7180, or Lancaster-County@UNL.EDU. (DJ)



### Problems found in water supplies and appropriate tests to request.

Problem or Concern	Tests to Consider <i>(Test as appropriate after further study)</i>
<b>Appearance is:</b> Frothy, foamy Black flakes Brown, yellow or reddish	Detergents Manganese Iron
<b>Has Odor and/or Tastes Like:</b> Rotten egg Metallic Salty Septic, musty or earthy Soapy Gasoline or oil	Hydrogen sulfide pH, iron, zinc, copper, lead Total dissolved solids, chloride, sodium, sulfates Coliform bacteria, iron Surfactants, detergents Hydrocarbon scan, volatile organic chemicals (VOCs)
<b>Causes The Following on Fixtures or Clothing:</b> Red or brown stains Black stains Green or blue stains Reddish-brown slime White deposits, soap scum	Iron Manganese Copper Iron bacteria Hardness
<b>For Use As And/Or Has Symptoms of:</b> Private water supply used for children with developing teeth buds or discoloration of children's teeth occurs Water supply used for infant less than six months old, pregnant or nursing woman or elderly with a genetically impaired enzyme system Family or guests become ill	Fluoride  Nitrate
<b>If You Suspect or Observe:</b> Leaking fuel tank Road salt Landfills Sludge utilization Intensive agricultural use Septic system failure	Coliform bacteria, sulfates, Giardia  Hydrocarbon scan, VOCs Total dissolved solids, chloride, sodium Total dissolved solids, pH, VOCs, heavy metals Coliform bacteria, nitrate, metals (lead, cadmium) Coliform bacteria, nitrate, pesticide scan, pH, total dissolved solids Coliform bacteria, nitrate, detergents, total dissolved solids, chloride, sodium, sulfates
<b>Causes Corrosion:</b> Pitting, deposits	Corrosivity, pH, lead, zinc, manganese, copper, iron, sulfates, chloride

Table adapted from Mancel, Karen; (1986) AEX-314 Water Testing, Ohio State University Cooperative Extension; and Mengel, David B and C Janssen; (1990) WQ4 Water Quality, Purdue University Cooperative Extension.

## Drinking Water Q&A

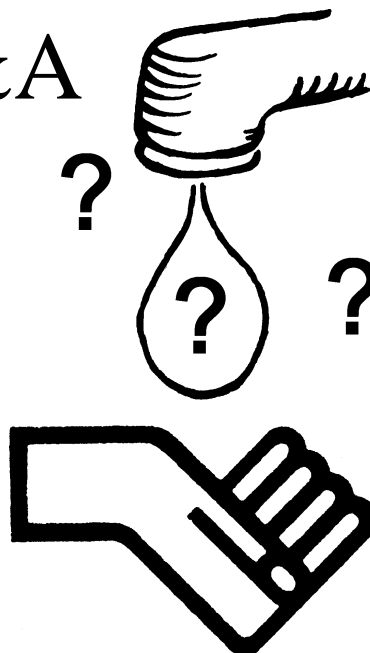
**Q.** How do I know what is in my drinking water?

**A.** In 1999 you should have received a new communication from your public water utility. The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) was a new requirement of the revised federal Safe Drinking Water Act. If you live in a large community, you probably received the report in the mail. If you live in a smaller community, the report might have been published in the local newspaper. You will get another CCR from your public water utility this year. Take time to study it. It will provide information so you, the water consumer, will know and understand what is in your drinking water. Among other things, the CCR will identify the source of your drinking water, the treatment used, any contaminants that have been identified in the water, and what the potential health effects of those contaminants are.

**Q.** Can I tell if my drinking water is OK by looking at it, tasting it, or smelling it?

**A.** No. In many cases, chemicals or microbes that could make water unsafe to drink cannot be seen, tasted, or smelled. The only way to know if water you use for drinking and cooking contains potentially harmful substances is to have it tested. All public water supplies are required by the federal Safe Drinking Water Act and Nebraska law to be tested on a scheduled basis for potentially harmful contamination. Testing a private water supply is not required by current regulations. Owners of private water supplies are responsible to themselves for having their water supply tested to ensure it is safe.

**Q.** Water often looks cloudy when first taken from a faucet and then it clears up. Why does



this happen and is the water safe to drink?

**A.** The cloudy water is caused by tiny air bubbles in the water. After a while, the bubbles rise to the top and are gone. The air bubbles do not make the water unsafe to drink.

See WATER on page 11

## Controlling Pocket Gophers

Pocket gophers are a nuisance on many farms due to the mounds of soil they make in fields. Mounds and runways cause potential damage to livestock, machinery and reduction of crop yields. Pocket gophers can be legally controlled, and in most counties carry a bounty. Check with your township officer or city hall for more information on collecting gopher bounties.

Control methods are more effective during the spring and fall when pocket gophers are most active. This activity can be noted by the presence of fresh mounds of soil.

Traps and poisoned baits are the most practical methods of control. On small areas where a few animals are involved, trapping or hand baiting is effective. Gopher traps and baits are available at most farm supply or lawn and garden section of your favorite hardware store. When handling gopher traps, be sure to wear gloves for safety reasons and to reduce the presence of human scents. The presence of human scents in a gopher run can lead to an empty trap.

Hand baiting involves dropping poisonous baits into the underground runways. One pound of bait can treat many acres. On large and heavily infested areas, a tractor-drawn machine called a burrow builder is used to make artificial burrows and automatically drop baits into them.

When using a burrow

builder, make artificial burrows twenty feet apart across the field at the same depth as the natural burrows. The machines drop poisoned bait mechanically at nine to twelve inch intervals in the artificial burrow. One pound will treat one acre.

On smaller acreages, to hand bait remove the earth plug from the lateral tunnel of a fresh mound of dirt. Insert a tablespoonful of poisoned bait into the main runway with a long handled spoon. Cover the opening to exclude light and loose dirt. The main runway can also be located by probing with a stick or metal rod about 8-18 inches back from the plug mark in the ground.

When the runway is found, enlarge the hole, put in the bait and cover as before. Scrape over mounds and after 48 hours retreat those runs showing signs of new activity. One pound of poisoned bait will treat five or more acres.

For extensive hand baiting, purchased or homemade probes made of 3/4 inch pipe welded to a blunt point and cut to 34 inches in length make the job easier and quicker. A foot rest can be made 16 inches from the end.

Some gopher baits/poisons are classified as "restricted use" pesticides. To purchase you will need a private pesticide applicators licence. Always read and follow label directions before using any pesticide. (DJ)

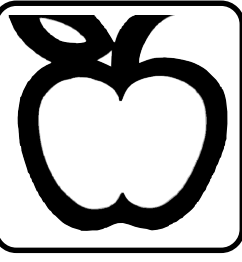
## Steps To Maintaining a Healthy Pasture

One of our most neglected agricultural resources is our pastures. Yet, from those pastures we expect to provide nutrients required for the growth and/or maintenance of our animals. In addition to lacking necessary nutrients, poorly maintained pastures are often overrun with weeds, have poor

soil structure, and can be a substantial source of non-point source surface and groundwater pollution.

Properly maintained pastures reduce surface run-off and soil erosion by slowing down and using surface water and

See PASTURES on page 11



## Food & Fitness



Alice Henneman, RD, LMNT, Extension Educator

Since 1991, the 5 A Day for Better Health Program has raised public awareness about the importance of fruits and vegetables in disease prevention according to the National Cancer Institute. The national public-private "5 A Day" partnership seeks to increase consumption of fruits and vegetables to 5 or more servings each day.

The following official 5 A Day recipe from the National Cancer Institute provides four people with one and a half servings of vegetables each. For more recipe ideas, check their Web site at [www.5aday.gov](http://www.5aday.gov) (AH)

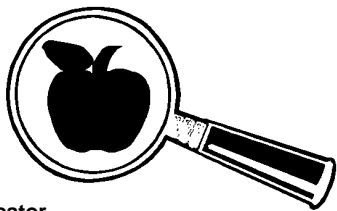
### Fabulous 5-Layer Dip

1 (16 oz.) can non-fat refried beans  
2 mashed avocados sprinkled with lime juice  
1-1/2 cups non-fat sour cream  
3 tablespoons drained, chopped mild green chili peppers  
8 diced plum tomatoes

Using a 13x9x2 glass baking dish or pan, layer the ingredients in order from beans to tomatoes. Dig in with baked tortilla chips.

Serves 4

## Focus on Food



Alice Henneman, RD, LMNT, Extension Educator

### Q: What's an easy way to remove the skins from tomatoes?

**A:** Here's a quick way to remove the skin from tomatoes with hot water.

- 1) First, wash tomatoes thoroughly under running water.
- 2) Then, cut a small "x" in the bottom of tomatoes without cutting into the flesh.
- 3) Dip tomatoes one by one in boiling water for 15 to 30 seconds or until skins start to crack.
- 4) Plunge immediately in ice water.
- 5) Remove tomatoes when cool and slip off skins with a sharp knife. (AH)

## YOUR information center... around the clock

### NUFACTS

NUFACTS offers information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In the Lincoln area call 441-7188; for the rest of Nebraska call 1-800-832-5441. When directed, enter the 3-digit number of the message you wish to hear.

305 Safe Vinegars for Pickling  
307 Remedies for jam or Jelly that Doesn't Set  
313 Canning Tomatoes Safely

and many more...

### Cook It Quick!

Tips and recipes for cooking healthy foods in a hurry:  
[www.lancaster.unl.edu/food](http://www.lancaster.unl.edu/food)

### FREE monthly Food Reflections e-mail newsletter.

To be added to the mailing list, e-mail Alice Henneman at [AHENNEMAN1@UNL.EDU](mailto:AHENNEMAN1@UNL.EDU)

## Home Canning Concerns

It's canning time again! If you're new to canning or would like a refresher course, here are some "Major Canning Sins" that are potentially deadly from Charlotte P. Brennand, PhD, Utah State University Extension Food Safety specialist:

**WHAT:** Making up your own canning recipe. **WHY UNSAFE:** Without scientific testing, you will not know how long the product needs to be processed to be safe.

**WHAT:** Adding extra starch, flour or other thickener to a recipe. **WHY UNSAFE:** This will change the rate of heat penetration into the product and can result in undercooking.

**WHAT:** Adding extra onions, chili, bell peppers, or other vegetables to salsas. **WHY UNSAFE:** the extra vegetables dilute the acidity and can result in botulism poisoning.

**WHAT:** Using oven instead of water bath for processing. **WHY UNSAFE:** The product will be under processed since air is not as good a conductor of heat as water of steam. The jars also may blow up.

**WHAT:** Not making altitude adjustments. **WHY UNSAFE:** Since boiling temperatures are lower at higher altitudes, the products will be undercooked. (NOTE: The altitude in Lancaster County ranges from 1,200 to 1,700 feet and you'll need to follow the recommended altitude adjustments given in your canning book for this level.)

**WHAT:** Not venting pressure cooker first. **WHY UNSAFE:** Lack of venting can result in air pockets which will not reach as high a temperature.

**WHAT:** Failure to acidify canned tomatoes. **WHY UNSAFE:** Not all tomatoes have an adequate acid level. This can

result in botulism poisoning.

**WHAT:** Cooling pressure canner under running water. **WHY UNSAFE:** calculations as to cooking time includes the residual heat during the normal cool-down period as part of the heat process. Hurrying this process will result in under processed food.

**WHAT:** Letting food cool before processing in the recipes that call for "hot pack." **WHY UNSAFE:** The heat curves are based on the food being hot at the beginning of the processing. Product could be under processed.

For CANNING AND FREEZING information and directions for specific foods, check the Lancaster Extension website at:  
<http://lancaster.unl.edu/food/foodpres.htm>

## Healthy Snacks Make a Feast

It was the night of the school's annual "Heritage Feast" and an 11-year-old boy proudly brought his family's food contribution to the table. He was exceptionally thrilled to present this, as he had made it himself. He had just completed a nutrition education program in his elementary school which taught him how to make the snack and why healthy eating is so important.

During the 2000-2001 school year, 1,486 Lincoln Public School (LPS) youth from limited resource area schools participated in the Cooperative Extension Nutrition Education Program's (NEP) school enrichment series. Over 50 LPS teachers checked out nutrition kits developed by NEP staff to enhance their teaching of the LPS health curriculum on nutrition. Students learned about the Food Guide Pyramid, healthy snacks, nutrients important for overall health, planning balanced meals, food safety issues, and hand washing.

"This ain't no ordinary cookie, this is a nutritious cookie." "I'm going to make these for my family." "I plan to do babysitting and have a day care some day and I want to know about making foods that are healthy for them, so now I have a healthy snack I can use." These are some of the comments heard from students after their food preparation experience of measuring and mixing ingredients to create their own snack.



All classrooms using the kit began with the hand washing component and ended with the food preparation.

After learning about the importance of nutrient rich foods compared to empty calorie foods, a fifth grade classroom decided to make their Valentine's Day "party" food a little healthier than just candy. The class divided into five groups, each representing one of the five major food groups. Each group brought foods that would fit in that category. The teacher indicated they had quite a "healthy feast" and "learned a lot about food preparation and manners."

A group of first grade students showed their knowledge of the Food Guide Pyramid by bringing in food products during the school's food drive. The

teacher explained that the youth had decided to bring in items that would make up a "balanced" meal. When all foods were gathered the students organized them into meals representing the five food groups. One first grader said, "We want to help other families eat good food."

These examples are representative of how Lincoln Public School children are learning to take care of their bodies by choosing healthy foods. The partnership between Lancaster County Extension and Lincoln Public Schools has provided students with over 600 hours of nutrition education. Students receiving this education will have the opportunity to develop life-long healthy eating habits. (KW)



## Clean Hands Campaign

Have fun using "glo-germ" to teach handwashing to youth and adults. Receive handouts for your group and a copy of reproduction ready handwashing activities. Call Alice Henneman (441-7180) to schedule a time to checkout the Clean Hands Kit and receive your materials. Kit must be checked out and returned within the same week. Available on a first come, first served, basis. This activity can be used with any number and takes about 20 or minutes, depending on the size and age of your group. (AH)

# Clarice's Column

Clarice Steffens  
FCE Council Chair



The Sizzling Summer Sampler and the county fair have come and gone. FCE State

Convention is coming up and local schools will be in session in the next few days. You know what that means, don't you! Once again the summer has passed by quickly and fall activities will soon be in full swing.

FCE fall activities will soon be upon us too. The next Council meeting is scheduled for September 24 at 7 p.m. hosted by the Busy Bees, Helpful Homemakers and Tuesday Tinkers. This meeting will be at the Lancaster County Extension Center.

Plans for Achievement Day are well underway. This will be

October 23 at 6:30 p.m. and hosted by the Beltline, Emerald, and Willing Workers clubs. The guest speaker will be Kathy Peters, dollmaker, from Seward. Kathy's work includes restoration of the First Lady Doll display at the Governor's Mansion. If you have dolls or memories of dolls that you would like to share, please bring your stories and dolls (doll furniture, etc.) to the meeting.

It was decided at the March Council meeting we would support the Food Bank of Lincoln for our county project for 2001. Needed food items include canned meats, dinners, fruits and vegetables.

Other needs are soups, cooking oil, pasta, rice, dry milk, peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, tomato and spaghetti sauce, sugar, pudding, jello, juices, shampoo, toothpaste, laundry and bath soap and baby

formula. Please bring donations to the September Council meeting or the Achievement Day activities. This is a very worthwhile project and I hope everyone will participate.

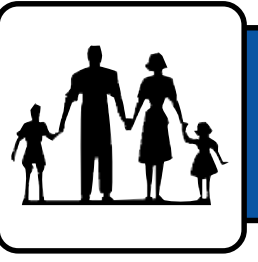
Thanks to all the FCE members and guests who attended the Sizzling Summer Sampler. Approximately 70 people enjoyed the food, learnships and just being together. Our presenters were great!

Thanks also to all who have contributed and plan to contribute to the FCE scholarship fund through the Bakeless Bake Sale. The fund is growing nicely, but there is still opportunity for additional contributions.

I hope I will see many of you at the State Convention in Kearney. We can share our experiences at the September Council meeting.

Enjoy these last days of summer—have a safe and relaxing Labor Day weekend.

## Family Living



by Lorene Bartos, Extension Educator

Repeated exposure of a garment to perspiration and body oils can cause a permanent yellow discoloration and an odor; and perspiration can eventually cause silk fibers to deteriorate. In addition, it can react with fabric dyes or sizing, making the stain even more difficult to remove. People who perspire heavily should clean their clothes often and may want to consider wearing garment shields. Clothes that are worn frequently should also be cleaned frequently to avoid stains caused by perspiration and body oils. (LB)

## ★ FCE News ★

### FCE Leader Training

The FCE leader training lesson, "Indoor Air Quality: Know the Asthma Triggers" is scheduled for Tuesday, September 25, 1 p.m. and will be presented by Lorene Bartos, extension educator.

This lesson is designed to educate people about indoor air quality and the many asthma triggers in a home.

Anyone interested is invited to attend. Non-FCE members should preregister by calling 441-7180, so materials can be prepared. (LB)

### FCE Reorganizational Packets

Family and Community Education (FCE) club reorganizational packets will be ready for club presidents to pick up after state convention, about August 25, at the extension office. It will include the dues information for club treasurers. Information in the packet has October due dates. It is time to look forward and plan an exciting and educational year for FCE. If you have questions, call Lorene or Pam at 441-7180. (LB)

### September FCE Council Meeting

The September council meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 24, 7 p.m. The business meeting will follow the program by dollmaker Kathy Peters. If you have dolls or memories of dolls to share, please bring your stories and dolls to the meeting. All FCE members are invited to attend. Winners of the writing an deposter contest will be recognized. (LB)

# Helping Youth Prevent Teen Pregnancy (Part II)

LaDeane Jha  
Extension Educator

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy did an extensive review of recent research and held interviews with experts in the field to ascertain what parents might be able to do to reduce the risk of kids becoming pregnant before they've grown up. From the research they developed ten tips for parents. Last month two of their tips were featured, here are the rest of them:

**Tip Three:** Supervise and monitor your children and adolescents. Establish rules, curfews, and standards of expected behavior. Think about who is responsible for your teens between the time they are dismissed from school and when a parent gets home. Are they engaged in useful activities? Are there adults in charge? Supervising and monitoring your kids'

whereabouts doesn't make you a nag; it makes you a parent.

**Tip Four:** Know your children's friends and their families. It is easier to enforce a curfew that all your child's friends share rather than one that makes him or her different—even if your views don't match those of other parents, hold fast to your convictions. Welcome your children's friends into your home and talk to them openly.

**Tip Five:** Discourage early, frequent, and steady dating. Group activities among young people are fine and often fun, but allowing teens to begin steady, one-on-one dating much before age 16 can lead to trouble. Let your child know about your strong feelings about this throughout childhood.

**Tip Six:** Take a strong stand against your daughter dating a boy significantly older than she is. And don't allow your son to develop an intense relationship with a girl much younger than he

is. Try setting a limit of no more than a two- or three-year age difference. The power differences between younger girls and older boys or men can lead girls into risky situations, including unwanted sex and sex with no protection.

**Tip Seven:** Help your teenagers to have options for the future that are more attractive than early pregnancy and parenthood. The chances your children will delay sex, pregnancy, and parenthood are significantly increased if their futures appear bright. Explain how becoming pregnant—or causing pregnancy—can derail the best plans.

**Tip Eight:** Let your kids know you value education highly. Encourage your children to take school seriously and set high expectations about school performance. School failure is often the first sign of trouble that can end in teenage parenthood. Limit the

ACTIVITY	AGE	WHY THAT AGE?
1. Wear makeup	_____	_____
2. Have a credit card	_____	_____
3. Work part-time during the school year	_____	_____
4. Drink alcohol for the first time	_____	_____
5. Get her or his ears pierced	_____	_____
6. Buy a car	_____	_____
7. Go on a group date	_____	_____
8. Go steady (date someone exclusively)	_____	_____
9. Go on an individual date	_____	_____
10. Stay out until midnight on weekends	_____	_____
11. Not have a curfew	_____	_____
12. Rent a hotel room	_____	_____
13. Have a boy/girl party	_____	_____
14. Open a checking account	_____	_____
15. Choose her or his own clothes	_____	_____
16. Stay home alone when parents go out of town	_____	_____
17. Cook an entire family meal	_____	_____
18. Take a weekend camping trip with peers	_____	_____
19. Go to an R-rated movie	_____	_____
20. Go out of state with a friend's family	_____	_____

Adapted from "Building Assets Together" by Jolene L. Roehlkepartain

## CHARACTER COUNTS! Corner

### The rewards of respect

Hal Urban, a noted educator and advocate of character education emphasizes the positive aspects of showing respect rather than the "should" or "have to" approach we sometimes take. He offers the following list of rewards for treating others the way we would like them to treat us:

- We develop effective social skills and habits.
- We make other people feel good.
- We earn the respect of others.
- We establish good relationships.
- We are treated better by other people.
- We improve our feelings of self-worth.
- We build a solid reputation.

As Hal says, "Good people build their lives on a foundation of respect." (LJ)

Adapted from: "Life's Greatest Lessons Or 20 Things I Want My Kids to Know" by Hal Urban







## 4-H & Youth

### Fair Review Meeting

All beef, sheep, swine, goat, dairy, llama, and dog 4-H and FFA families are encouraged to attend the fair review meeting, Monday, August 20 at 7 p.m. We will discuss what worked well for the fair this year and what we can do to make it even better for next year. If you have any questions, please call Deanna at 441-7180. (DK)

### Fair's Over, Now What? Parent and Leader Meeting

Leaders, parents, and interested volunteers are invited to attend this 4-H training. Discover how to finish the current 4-H year and how to prepare for the next 4-H year. Awards, project completion/selection, and club reorganization will be covered. See you there Tuesday, September 25, 9:30 a.m. or 7 p.m. (TK)

## Premier Animal Science Events

Nine youth from Lancaster County participated in the state livestock judging, meats judging, and general livestock quiz bowl contests during the Premier Animal Science Events held at the University of Nebraska, June 25-26.

Participants pictured are: (back row left to right) Zach Morton, Steve Landon, Connie Lemke & Kirstin Liljestrand; (front row left to right) Ryan Cheney, Bryce Lemke, Brad Cheney & Justin Bauman. Not pictured, Emily Veburg. (DK)



### 4-H Bulletin Board

Teen Council will meet Sunday, September 9, 3-5 p.m. All teens are welcome to join the fun.

## 4-H Schedule — 2001 Nebraska State Fair

### Wednesday, August 22

- 10 a.m. Enter all Exhibit Hall exhibits
- 3 p.m. Begin judging Exhibit Hall exhibits
- 3 p.m. Deadline for entry of Exhibit Hall exhibits

### Thursday, August 23

- 8 a.m. Judging Exhibit Hall exhibits

### Friday, August 24

- 8 a.m. 4-H Exhibit Hall open to public for exhibit viewing

### Saturday, August 25

- 8 a.m. 4-H Exhibit Hall open to public for exhibit viewing
- 9 a.m. Keeping Families First, 4-H Exhibit Hall arena
- 9:30 a.m. Dog Judging Contest registration, Pershing Auditorium, off fairgrounds
- 9:30 a.m. Cat Show check-in and vet check until 10:15 a.m., Youth Complex Demo Rooms
- 10 a.m. Dog Show, Pershing Auditorium, off fairgrounds
- 10 a.m. Presentations, Youth Complex Demo Rooms
- 10:30 a.m. Cat Show begins, dismissed at the conclusion of the show
- 1 p.m. Dairy goat check-in until 2 p.m.
- 1 p.m. 4-H Discovery Center, 4-H Exhibit Hall
- 7 p.m. Dairy Goat Showmanship, Open Class Swine, Sheep Goat Barn

### Sunday, August 26

- 8 a.m. Dairy Goat Show, Open Class Swine, Sheep Goat Barn
- 11 a.m. 4-H Vegetable Sale, 4-H Exhibit Hall
- 1 p.m. 4-H Discovery Center, 4-H Exhibit Hall

### Thursday, August 30

- 10 p.m. 4-H Discovery Center, 4-H Exhibit Hall

### Friday, August 31

- 10 a.m. 4-H Discovery Center, 4-H Exhibit Hall
- 10 a.m. Beef, sheep, swine, dairy stalls available
- 1 p.m. Poultry cages available
- 1 p.m. State 4-H Public Speaking Competition, Youth Complex Demo Rooms
- 4:30 p.m. Check-in breeding sheep until 5 p.m.
- 5 p.m. Weigh market lambs until 7 p.m.
- 6:30 p.m. Check breeding beef/weigh & tag market beef until 10 p.m.
- 8 p.m. Poultry must be in place, Lancaster Building

### Saturday, September 1

- 7:30 a.m. Check breeding beef/weigh & tag market beef
- 8 a.m. Check-in breeding sheep until 9 a.m.
- 8 a.m. Weigh market lambs
- 8 a.m. Deadline for arrival of market lambs and breeding sheep
- 8 a.m. Presentations, Youth Complex Demo Rooms
- 8 a.m. Tree Identification Contest, East Campus Union
- 8:30 a.m. Weed and Grass Identification Contest, East Campus Union
- 9 a.m. Judging 4-H Poultry Show, Lancaster Building
- 9 a.m. Premier exhibitor activities for beef, dairy, sheep, and swine as scheduled until 3 p.m.
- 10 a.m. 4-H Fashion Show, Bob Devaney Sports Center
- 10 a.m. 4-H Discovery Center, 4-H Exhibit Hall
- 10 a.m. Horticulture Judging Contest, East Campus Union
- 10 a.m. No market sheep will be weighed after this time
- 10 a.m. Check-in of dairy cattle begins
- 10 a.m. Information cards to enter the 4-H Sheep Showmanship Contest due in 4-H Livestock Office
- 10 a.m. Beef and swine exhibits must be in place
- 10:30 a.m. No beef cattle will be checked, weighed or tagged after this time
- 11 a.m. Dairy cattle must be in place

- 11 a.m. Register for 4-H Shopping in Style Fashion Show until noon, Bob Devaney Sports Center
- 12 p.m. Report for 4-H Shopping in Style Fashion Show, Bob Devaney Sports Center
- 1 p.m. 4-H Shopping in Style Fashion Show until noon, Bob Devaney Sports Center
- 1 p.m. 4-H Discovery Center, 4-H Exhibit Hall
- 2 p.m. Sheep Lead exhibitors meeting in Sheep Show Arena
- 3 p.m. All dairy cattle must be checked in to be eligible to show
- 3 p.m. Sheep Lead Show, Exhibit Hall arena
- 4 p.m. Rabbit cages available
- 4 p.m. Turkey and Chicken Barbecue Contest, Youth Complex
- 4 p.m. Information cards to enter the 4-H Swine Showmanship Contest due in 4-H Livestock Office
- 4:30 p.m. Egg Demonstration Contest, Youth Complex Demo Room
- 5 p.m. Release 4-H poultry
- 5 p.m. Breeding Sheep Show, Exhibit Hall Arena
- 7:30 p.m. Sheep Showmanship Contest, Exhibit Hall Arena

### Sunday, September 2

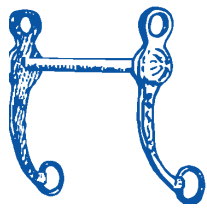
- 8 a.m. Judging all 4-H market steers & market heifers, New Arena
- 8 a.m. Judging market lambs, Youth Complex Arena
- 8 a.m. Presentations continue
- 8 a.m. Weigh and tattoo market hogs
- 9 a.m. All rabbits in place, Lancaster Building
- 12 p.m. Deadline to consign lambs to be shipped
- 1 p.m. 4-H Discovery Center, 4-H Exhibit Hall
- 3 p.m. Load lambs to be shipped
- 5:30 p.m. State 4-H Recognition Event & Social, Youth Complex Arena
- 7:30 p.m. 4-H Friendship Party, East Campus Union
- 8 p.m. Swine Showmanship, Swine Arena

### Monday, September 3

- 7:45 a.m. Family & Consumer Sciences Contest registration begins, four sections, East Campus Home Economics Building.
- 8 a.m. 4-H Dairy Show judging, Open Class Beef Arena
- 8 a.m. Judging 4-H rabbits, Lancaster Building
- 8 a.m. Judging breeding heifers as time permits before the selection of Grand Champion market animal, New Arena
- 8 a.m. Judging market gilts, followed by market barrows, Swine Arena
- 8 a.m. Presentations continue through morning
- 9 a.m. Music Contest, Open Air Auditorium
- 11:30 a.m. Presentation of Special Awards for market beef followed by selection of Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion market beef animals. Continue judging of breeding heifers, followed by Beef Showmanship
- 12 p.m. Cattle entered in Carcass Contest must be signed up in 4-H Livestock Office
- 2 p.m. All dairy cattle will be released
- 3 p.m. All beef & sheep from the Panhandle & West Central Districts not consigned for slaughter will be released
- 4 p.m. All beef & sheep from Northeast & South Central Districts not consigned for slaughter will be released
- 5 p.m. All beef & sheep from Southeast Districts not consigned for slaughter will be released
- 4 p.m. Release rabbits
- 6 p.m. Deadline for removal of rabbits
- 6 p.m. Deadline for removal of poultry
- 6 p.m. Ship market hogs for slaughter

### Tuesday, September 4

- 6 a.m. Ship market beef for slaughter
- 6 a.m. Deadline for removal of sheep and beef not sent to slaughter
- 8 a.m. Exhibits released until noon



# HORSE BITS

## Schoneweis Going to NBHA World Show



One of our Lancaster County 4-H'ers, 15-year-old **Ashley Schoneweis**, will be competing in the NBNA World Show in Jackson, Mississippi, to be held in August. In July, she and her horse, Chargetoonight, competed in the NBHA National Championship in Wichita, Kansas and won the 18 and under class by recording times of 14.902 and 14.601. This is the first time the national championship has even been won by someone from Nebraska! Way to go and good luck, Ashley! (EK)

## District Horse Shows

Lancaster County had 54 exhibitors show at three different district horse shows, including the one we hosted at Capital City Horse & Pony Club on June 27. Forty of those went on to the State Horse Exposition in Grand Island July 15-20.

Winning trophies in their classes were:

**Terra Steinhauer**-Champion Junior Western Pleasure

**Sara Messick**-Reserve Champion Senior English Horsemanship, Reserve

Champion Senior Pole Bending

**Megan Miller**-Champion Senior Western Pleasure

**Josh Blum**-Reserve Champion

Senior Western Horsemanship,

Champion Senior Pole Bending,

Champion Senior Barrel Racing

**Kyle Ryan**-2<sup>nd</sup> Reserve Champion

Senior Western Horsemanship

**Martina Dey**-Champion Junior

Reining

**Trent Schaffer**-Champion Junior

Pole Bending

**Ashley Schoneweis**-Champion

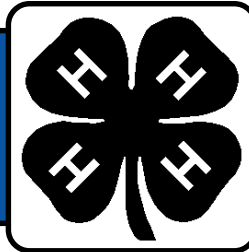
Junior Barrel Racing

**Jessica Frink**-Reserve Champion

Senior Barrel Racing

In all, our district show exhibitors received 24 purple ribbons, 38 blue, 44 red and one white. Congratulations to all who showed.

A huge thanks goes to the Capital City Horse & Pony Club whose board and members got the arena ready for the district show on short notice. (EK)



## 4-H & Youth

### Attention Environmentalists!!!

The Lincoln Center Kiwanis Club is looking for a few environmentally-minded 4-H'ers interested in helping with our annual roadside clean-up project. The Kiwanis Agriculture and Environment Committee hosts a trash pickup every year in the spring and fall. This involves wearing a cool orange vest and picking up the trash along a one-mile stretch of the Homestead Expressway (Highway 77) between West Van Dorn and West A streets. This fall's clean-up is

scheduled for Saturday, August 18, 8 to 10 a.m. Everyone meets at Yankee Doodles on 640 Prospector Court, we split into small work groups and the fun begins. Once we finish, we compare biggest/weirdest/mostest trash stories over refreshments and snacks.

If you are interest in joining members from the Lincoln Center Kiwanis Club on the morning of August 18, please contact Peg Koehn at 481-5780 (day) or 421-6386 (evening). We'll save a vest for you! (LB)

## 2001 AK-SAR-BEN YOUTH EXHIBITION

### September 19-23

Omaha, Nebraska

FFI: 402-441-7180 or [www.aksarben.org](http://www.aksarben.org)

## Scholarships Available

Several scholarships are available to 4-H members graduating in 2001. Application forms can be obtained at the extension office. Application deadline is October 29, 2001. For more information, call Lorene at 441-7180. (LB)

# 4-H Open House

Monday, September 10  
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Lancaster Extension Education Center  
444 Cherrycreek Road



For Adults & Children (5 years and older)

Learn more about the 4-H program!

### I'm interested in 4-H!

Return to University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln, NE 68528-1507. A 4-H representative will contact you. Please call 441-7180 for more information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  Female  Male Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in school \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Check project area of interest:**

- Dogs
- Rabbits
- Home Environment
- Child Care
- Foods
- Clothing
- Cats
- Other Household Pets
- Woodworking
- Model Rockets
- Flowers/Gardening
- Livestock
- Horses
- Safety
- Shooting Sports
- Photography

**Are you interested in becoming a 4-H volunteer? Check your interest:**

- Club Leader
- Project Assistant



## Community Focus

### Community Residents Recognized During the Lancaster County Fair

Recipients of the “Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben and Omaha World Herald Good Neighbor Award” was Doug and Tracy Christensen of Lincoln. Since its inception 56 years ago, this program recognizes the unselfish acts of neighbors from across the Heartland.

2001 Pioneer Farm Family Award recipients were:

Darleen Warner Marolf of Waverly (Andrew Warner Family Farm)

Marvin D. Chambers from rural Bennet (Chambers Farm)

Norma Jean Gordon, who

resides in Sedalia, Missouri (Frank Rundle Farm)

The Pioneer Farm Family Award is presented annually to recognize Nebraska Pioneer Farm Families whose land has been owned by the same family for 100 years or more. The award is sponsored by the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben and the Nebraska Association of Fair Managers. Each honoree receives an engraved plaque and gatepost market including public recognition at the Lancaster County Fair. (GB)

### Ventures in Partnerships Recognizes Arlene Hanna as “Pioneer Award” Winner!

Extension Associate, Arlene Hanna was recently recognized at the August 10, 2001 annual VIP Kickoff held at Lincoln’s East High School. Her Cooperative Extension “school enrichment work” with Lincoln Public Schools has been exceptional over the years. It has culminated in an **earth wellness festival** which annually involves 80+ area educators teaching approximately 3,000 fifth graders environment education in areas of water, land, air, and living



Arlene Hanna

resources.

Established in 1987, the “Pioneer Awards” are presented annually to individuals or VIP teams who blaze a new trail in partnerships. The award honors creative, new avenues of VIP relationships that enhance education and build a stronger community.

The mission of the Lincoln Public Schools, Ventures in Partnerships initiative is to work together to enhance education and build a stronger community. (GB)

### “Cultural Insights” Refugees from Sudan



Sief Mahagoub  
Extension Community Coordinator

Lincoln is a primary relocation site for new refugees and is becoming increasingly diverse. Sief Mahagoub is from Sudan and represents a growing number of newcomers from his country. One of Sief’s roles with Lancaster County Extension will be to provide cultural insights about new residents in our community. He starts with a description of his native land.

There are many Sudanese in the Lincoln/Omaha area, with about one thousand in Lincoln, and five thousand in Omaha. The majority of them are Nuer, Dinka, and Nuba Mountain people. Most of these come from southern Sudan. There are also some who come from the northern opposition parties. Sudan is always spoken of as one nation comprised of four different countries: north, south, east and west. Each one is seen as completely different from the others. **Geography**

Located in northeast Africa, Sudan is geographically the largest country in Africa, with approximately one million square miles—roughly the size of the U.S. east of the Mississippi. Sudan shares its borders with nine other countries, including Egypt to the north.

#### POPULATION

Sudan has approximately 34.5 million people from as many as 400 different ethnic groups. The north is dominated by Arabic-speaking Muslims. In the south, more than 100 different languages are spoken, and most follow indigenous beliefs or have become Christians.

#### EDUCATION

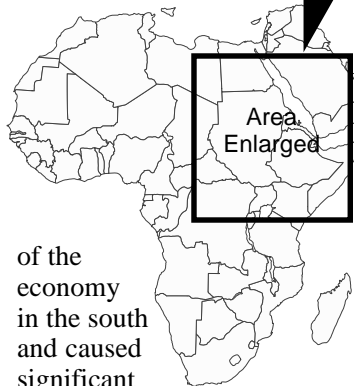
Currently, all curricula follow a strict Islamic model in the Arabic language. In the south, education was formerly offered in English. At this time, because of war, government neglect, lack of supplies and trained teachers, few schools remain open, and two generations of southern Sudanese children have not received education.

#### HEALTH CARE

Although medical care in Sudan is, in principle, free, there are not enough trained professionals, clinics, hospitals, or medicines. Traditional healing arts continue to be practiced. Health care in the south is basically non-existent, and very few people have access to clean water.

#### ECONOMY

Four out of five Sudanese make their living either farming, raising livestock, or both. In southern Sudan, food production is the single activity that absorbs the energy of the people. Women tend to the farming and domestic chores, while males hold responsibility for grazing and herding. The civil war has destroyed much



of the economy in the south and caused significant loss of people, cattle, and crops. Rudimentary subsistence is all that exists in the south.

In the past 20 years, many young Sudanese have moved into the Khartoum/Obdurman area in search of jobs or to escape from war. Low wages and expensive housing make life in the city difficult for the approximately five million people living there. Often, families depend on income from relatives working abroad.

#### SUDAN IN CONFLICT

Since independence in 1956, Sudan has been at war with itself. There was a brief peace in the 1970’s until the early 1980’s. The USCR (United States Commissioner for Refugees) states the root causes of the conflict are multiple and should not be oversimplified. There is racial tension between black southerners and Arab northerners. Northern government forces fight southern rebel forces. There has always been inter-tribal conflict in the south, and the north has fomented more conflict by providing arms. The south has continually struggled for autonomy from the north.

The conflict has been incredibly complex and lengthy. All sides have been known to commit violations such as conscripting child soldiers, raiding and attacking civilian populations. People are ambushed as they flee, there seems to be “no safe place.” Most sources agree, however, the government and its allies bear the largest responsibility for the continual suffering.

#### SUDANESE IN REFUGE

For the Sudanese, the flight for safety has been continual as many have had to flee from one region or one country to another. Most who will be resettled in the United States are Dinka, Nuer or people of the Nuba Mountains. Many will

be coming from either Egypt or Kenya. In Kenya, there are an estimated 66,000 in Kakuma Camp alone. There are also thousands of Sudanese refugees under UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) protection in Egypt.

“Sudan hosts the largest displaced population in the world and has produced one of every nine of the world’s uprooted people. At the end of 1999, more than four million Sudanese remained internally displaced, and some 420,000 Sudanese refugees were living in neighboring countries (Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, Congo-Kinshasa, Central African Republic, Chad, and Egypt). More than two million Sudanese have died because of the country’s civil war, including one in every five Sudanese, according to estimates.”

—USCR Refugee Reports, Spring/Summer 2000

#### SUDANESE IN RESETTLEMENT

In the fall of 2000 and throughout 2001, approximately 3,600 Sudanese youth and young adults (majority Dinka) from Kakuma will be resettled across the U.S. As many as 30,000 - 40,000 children originally fled on foot to Ethiopia in the late 1980’s—a journey that took as long as four months. In 1991-92, they were forcibly returned to Sudan, then traveled on foot to northern Kenya. Those who survived the arduous treks have spent at least seven years in Kakuma.

In many ways, life in the camp has been like any other African village, with the youth living in clusters that serve a family-like function. It should be noted most are male, but there is a small number of females. Since they have lived apart from families for most of their lives, the unaccompanied minors and young adults have not taken part in many of the traditional southern Sudanese cultural traditions (e.g., scarification, owning cattle, learning domestic skills from mothers).

Education has been an important part of refugee assistance in Kakuma, with more than 30 schools serving more than 33,000 students. Child welfare workers note the Sudanese youth generally have very high expectations about education, which is seen as a “recovery strategy”—a way to take back control over their lives.

### An Invitation for Elementary Educators and Community Partners

**WHAT:** Character Education: A Conference for Elementary Educators and Community Partners

**WHERE:** Beatrice High School, Beatrice, Nebraska

**WHEN:** Thursday, October 25, 8:45 a.m.–3:15 p.m.

**WHO:** For all elementary educators and community partners—parents, volunteers, businesses

**COST:** \$20 includes lunch and materials

**FEATURING:** Nationally known keynote speakers, Don Pelsis, David Brooks, and Susan Sheridan and breakout sessions.

Registration information will be sent to all LPS and county schools and will be available at the Extension Office after August 20. If you have questions, give LaDeane a call at 441-7180. (LJ)



**WATER**

*continued from page 5*

**Myth:** We have less water today than we did 100 years ago.

**Reality:** There is the same amount of water on earth today as there was when the earth was formed three billion years ago. The difference is that today many more demands are placed on water. Because our demands on water continue to grow but our supplies don't, everyone

should lend a hand to conserve, protect, and get involved with decisions that affect our water resources.

**Water fact:** Almost 80 percent of the earth's surface is covered with water; but less than one percent is fresh water that can actually be used for drinking, irrigating crops, recreation, industrial uses, and other purposes. Ninety-nine percent of the earth's water is in oceans or

frozen in polar ice caps. That's why it is very important that we conserve and protect our fresh water supplies.

**Food for thought:** To stay healthy you need to consume two to three quarts of water a day. Some you drink, some you get from the food you eat. Water also plays a big role in growing, processing, and cooking food. So it makes good sense to take care of our water resources. (DJ)

**PASTURES**

*continued from page 5*

plant nutrients, as well as, allowing pesticides time to affect target pests. With a little planning and management you can turn those neglected pastures into significant contributors of animal nutrients, and at the same time decrease potential sources of non-point source water pollution.



The first step needed in a pasture management scheme is an inventory of existing pasture plants. (What's growing out there?) Do you have more weeds than forage plants? Are the weeds mostly annuals or perennials? Annual weeds are not a major concern in the fall, but fall is the best time of the year to control perennial weeds.

The next step should be to get a soil test. In sandy soils you can count on needing to add fertilizer to your pastures. A soil test is the best way to determine how much of which plant nutrients are needed.

If you need to over-seed, or completely re-establish your pastures, choose a pasture mix that fits your situation. A grass-legume mix is often the best choice for nutrient value and season long forage availability.

If the pasture is to be heavily grazed, choose forages suited to heavy grazing such as bluegrass, white clover, or birds foot trefoil. If the pasture will not be heavily grazed, more choices are available. A good mix to start with for a new seeding is: 5 lb red clover + 6 lb smooth bromegrass + 3 lb orchard grass per acre. If your pasture grasses look good, you may still want to introduce a legume to increase the protein value of the pasture and to provide some nitrogen for the grasses.

Once the pasture is in good shape, and weeds have been controlled, a few simple management practices will help it to stay that way:

- Do not turn animals out onto wet pastures (especially in the spring); wait until pastures are dry. Animal hooves are more damaging to forage plants when the ground is soft and wet. Also,

turning the animals out too early in the spring will cause compaction and destroy the soil structure, causing problems long into the growing season.

- Use rotational grazing as much as possible to allow forage plants to recover. This will help produce a stronger root system, increase the amount of high quality forage over the season, and reduce the amount of weeds that are common to over-grazed or stressed pastures.

Even a small pasture can be divided into smaller "paddock" to allow for rest periods.

Rotational grazing also helps to spread manure more evenly over the field. Allowing the manure to dry, and then dragging the pasture will help to reduce pest and parasite problems by exposing insect eggs and parasites to predators and desiccation.

- Remove animals from pastures early enough to allow a build up of root reserves which will increase winter hardiness and pasture longevity. Animals should be taken off alfalfa pastures around mid-August, and other pastures from late August to early September.

- Fertilize yearly as indicated by soil test results. (DJ)

**YOUTH**

*continued from page 7*

number of hours your teenager gives to part-time jobs (20 hours per week should be the maximum) so there is enough time and energy left to focus on school.

**Tip Nine:** Know what your kids are watching, reading, and listening to. The media are chock full of material sending the wrong messages. Encourage your kids to think critically: ask them what they think about the programs they watch and the music they listen to.

**Tip Ten:** These first nine tips for helping your children

avoid teen pregnancy work best when they occur as part of strong, close relationships with your children that are built from an early age. Strive for a relationship that is warm in tone, firm in discipline, and rich in communication, and one that emphasizes mutual trust and respect.

Express love and affection clearly and often.

Listen carefully and pay thoughtful attention to what they do.

Spend time with children in activities that suit their ages and interests, not just yours.

Be supportive and interested in what interests them.

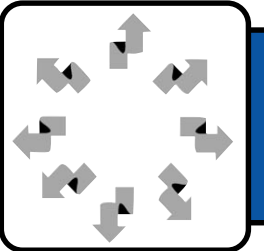
Be courteous and respectful to your children and avoid hurtful teasing or ridicule. Don't compare siblings.

Help them build self-esteem by mastering skills; remember, self-esteem is earned, not given, and one of the best ways to earn it is by doing something well.

Try to have meals together as a family as often as possible, and use the time for conversation, not confrontation. (LJ)

*Source: Ten Tips for Parents to Help Children Avoid Teen Pregnancy. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.*

**Miscellaneous**



**There's Nothing Fishy About This Nebraska Grad's Work.**



Deb Ohlinger doesn't fish, but she is a best friend to those who do. She is a civil engineer who is helping to restore Nebraska lakes—she got her feet wet on lake projects while completing her degree in biological systems engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Thanks to Deb's work, a few of Nebraska's lakes have less sediment in the water, better access to deeper waters and improved fish habitat.

Wagon Train Lake near Hickman and Summit Lake near Tekamah are two on her professional projects list, plus she's finishing a master's degree at NU to become even more of an expert on water and civil engineering.

**There is No Place Like Nebraska.**

**Nebraska**  
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA - LINCOLN

Sponsored by the Office of the Chancellor  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
As equal opportunity educator and employer with a comprehensive plan for diversity.

**Did You Know?**

Cooperative Extension is an integral part of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. See if you know the answers to the following trivia questions about Cooperative Extension and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

- 1. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is a land-grant institution. What is that?** According to the Cooperative Extension website, "Congress provided for a university in every state that would educate citizens in the agricultural and mechanical fields. These colleges are known today as 'land-grant universities.'"
- 2. What are the 3 branches of the mission of a land-grant institution?** Teaching, Research, Outreach (Extension)
- 3. What legislation established land-grant institutions and in what year?** The Morrill Act in 1862
- 4. What year was the University of Nebraska established?** 1869 (Two years after Nebraska became a state.)
- 5. Once land-grant institutions were established, what legislation established their research function? What year was it passed?** The Hatch Act in 1887
- 6. What was the name of the legislation that established Cooperative Extension, and in what year was it passed?** The Smith-Lever Act of 1914
- 7. The University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension has its mission summed up in one phrase—what is it?** Putting Knowledge to Work (Their slogan is "Helping People Put Knowledge to Work.")
- 8. What are the four sources of funding for Cooperative Extension?** State funds, federal funds, county funds, grants/contracts/fees
- 9. The publications produced by the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension to get information to the public are called what?** NebGuides
- 10. Nebraska has how many counties? How many county or multiple-county offices are there in Nebraska's Cooperative Extension?** Nebraska has 93 counties and 83 county or multiple-county offices.

Want to know more? See <http://www.cooperativeextension.com/> and/or <http://extension.unl.edu/aboutus.htm> (GB)

**Access Lancaster County Extension Office Thru the Internet**

Do you have the internet? If so...put it to use by logging on [www.lancaster.unl.edu](http://www.lancaster.unl.edu) to experience how knowledge can work for you! Back issues of the NEBLINE, NU Facts information, and a full array of extension information is available. The site is also a source for subject related links and the University of Nebraska. (GB)

[www.lancaster.unl.edu](http://www.lancaster.unl.edu)

**Shortcuts:**

- Food Safety & Nutrition [www.lancaster.unl.edu/food](http://www.lancaster.unl.edu/food)
- Agriculture & Acreage [www.lancaster.unl.edu/ag](http://www.lancaster.unl.edu/ag)
- Environmental Issues [www.lancaster.unl.edu/enviro](http://www.lancaster.unl.edu/enviro)
- Family [www.lancaster.unl.edu/family](http://www.lancaster.unl.edu/family)
- 4-H & Youth [www.lancaster.unl.edu/4-H](http://www.lancaster.unl.edu/4-H)
- Horticulture [www.lancaster.unl.edu/hort](http://www.lancaster.unl.edu/hort)
- Past issues of The NEBLINE [www.lancaster.unl.edu/neblines](http://www.lancaster.unl.edu/neblines)

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln By the Numbers**

- "a research university of national stature"*
- 1869 founded as a land-grant university
  - 1908 entered Association of American Universities as 18th member
  - 22,500 students
  - 1,531 faculty members
  - 15 to 1 student/faculty ratio
  - 200,000 number of alumni
  - 2 campuses (City & East)
  - 149 undergraduate majors
  - 350 student organizations
  - 22 intercollegiate sports

# The NEBLINE

Nebraska Cooperative Extension  
Newsletter  
Lancaster County

THE NEBLINE is published monthly by the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherrycreek Rd., Suite A, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68528-1507. Contact the extension office, (402) 441-7180 or lancaster.unl.edu for more information.



**Gary C. Bergman**, Extension Educator—Unit Leader,  
gbergman1@unl.edu

**NOTICE:** All programs and events listed in this newsletter will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center unless noted otherwise. Use of commercial and trade names does not imply approval or constitute endorsement by the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County.

- Lorene Bartos**, Extension Educator, lbartos1@unl.edu
- Corey Brubaker**, Extension Educator, sbrubaker1@unl.edu
- Maureen Burson**, Extension Educator, mburson1@unl.edu
- Patrice Broussard**, Nutrition Advisor, pbroussard2@unl.edu
- Tom Dorn**, Extension Educator, tdorn1@unl.edu
- Soni Cochran**, Extension Associate, scochran2@unl.edu
- Lance Cummins-Brown**, Extension Educator, lbrown4@unl.edu
- Arlene Hanna**, Extension Associate, ahanna1@unl.edu
- Alice Henneman**, Extension Educator, ahenneman1@unl.edu
- Don Janssen**, Extension Educator, djanssen2@unl.edu
- LaDeane Jha**, Extension Educator, ljha1@unl.edu
- Ellen Kraft**, Extension Assistant, ekraft1@unl.edu
- Tracy Kulm**, Extension Associate, tkulm1@unl.edu
- Deanna Karmazin**, Extension Associate, dkarmazin2@unl.edu
- Vicki Jedlicka**, Publication & Resource Assistant
- Mary Jane Frogge**, Extension Associate, mmcreynolds1@unl.edu
- Mardel Meinke**, Extension Assistant, mmeinke2@unl.edu
- Barb Ogg**, Extension Educator, bogg1@unl.edu
- Andrea Ohlrich**, Extension Assistant, aohlrich2@unl.edu
- Sondra Phillips**, Nutrition Advisor
- Kendra Schmit**, Extension Assistant, kschmit2@unl.edu
- David Smith**, Extension Technologist, dsmith9@unl.edu
- Suzanne Spomer**, Americorps - VISTA, sspomer2@unl.edu
- Jim Wies**, Extension Assistant, jwies1@unl.edu
- Karen Wobig**, Extension Assistant, kwobig2@unl.edu



### Phone numbers & addresses:

- Office (leave message after hours)** ..... 441-7180
  - TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf)** ..... 441-7180
  - After hours** ..... 441-7170
  - FAX** ..... 441-7148
  - COMPOSTING HOTLINE** ..... 441-7139
  - NUFACTS INFORMATION CENTER** ..... 441-7188
  - EXTENSION OFFICE E-MAIL** ..... Lancaster@unl.edu
  - WORLD WIDE WEB ADDRESS** ..... lancaster.unl.edu
- OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday**



## NEBLINE FEEDBACK

In order to best serve our subscribers, this form will appear in every issue of THE NEBLINE. You can use this form to:

1. Change your address or order a subscription (*please print*)
2. Submit general comments and/or story ideas

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

- Order subscription (*free—however, there is an annual \$5 mailing and handling fee for zip codes other than 683—, 684—, 685—, 68003, 68017, and 68065*)
- Change of Address

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

Story Idea(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to:**  
University of Nebraska  
Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County  
444 Cherrycreek Road • Suite A, Lincoln, Nebraska 68528-1507

# Extension Calendar

All programs and events will be held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center unless otherwise noted.

## AUGUST

- Aug. 15 Superintendents Dinner ..... 7 p.m.
- Aug. 17 Pesticide Container Recycling at Plymouth Coop in Wilbur .... 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
- Aug. 17 Fair board Meeting – Event Center ..... 7:30 p.m.
- Aug. 18 Acreage Owners Expo, ARDC ..... 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
- Aug. 18 Lincoln Center Kiwanis Club Annual Roadside Clean-up ..... 8–10 a.m.
- Aug. 20 Livestock Fair Review ..... 7 p.m.
- Aug. 22 State Fair Entry Day
- Aug. 24–Sep. 3 2001 NEBRASKA STATE FAIR
- Aug. 28 Pet Pals ..... 7 p.m.

See p. 8 of this issue for full 4-H Schedule at the 2001 Nebraska State Fair



## SEPTEMBER

- Sep. 4 4-H Council Meeting ..... 7 p.m.
- Sep. 9 4-H Ambassadors ..... 2 p.m.
- Sep. 9 4-H Teen Council ..... 3–5 p.m.
- Sep. 10 4-H Open House ..... 6:30–8 p.m.
- Sep. 12 Horse VIPS ..... 7 p.m.
- Sep. 13 Cat Club ..... 7 p.m.
- Sep. 14 Extension Board Meeting ..... 8 a.m.
- Sep. 19–23 Ak-Sar-Ben Youth Exhibition
- Sep. 24 FCE Council Meeting ..... 7 p.m.
- Sep. 25 FCE Leader Training “Indoor Air Quality: Know the Asthma Triggers” 1 p.m.
- Sep. 25 4-H Training ..... 9:30 a.m. or 7 p.m.

## Lancaster County Fair Sizzles

**Q: What has 130 beef, 30 dairy, 100 swine, 25 goats, 70 sheep, 6 llamas, 330 birds, 150 rabbits, 180 horses, 75 dogs, and 1500 static exhibits—all in above 100° F heat index temperatures?**

**A: The 2001 Lancaster County Fair!**

Participants and visitors alike enjoyed County Fair’s first year at the Lancaster Event Center. Prior to this year’s fair, 4-Her’s and other volunteers put in long hours making displays, setting up concession stands, and preparing the new facilities. Poultry was shown in the main building because construction of the Poultry Building was behind schedule, and poultry exhibitors look forward to next year when they will be in air conditioning!

Because the events were all held in one building, many participants were able to take in other events and exhibits they didn’t normally have time to in previous years because of the distance between buildings. Participants in the horse events enjoyed the fact that the barns were much closer to the arena.

A special thanks to all the participants, families, judges, superintendents, VIPs committees, 4-H Council, and the Ag Society for making this year’s County Fair a success!

