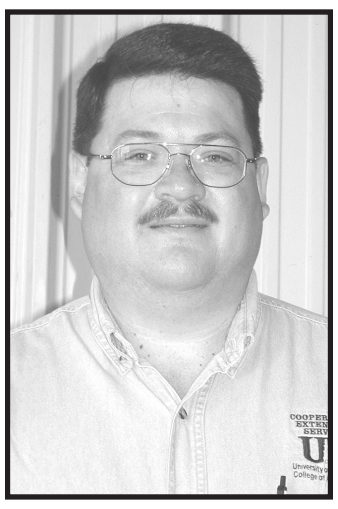
Avoid Blossum End Rot



Eric Baker
Estill County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources

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

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

Soils in Kentucky are rarely deficient in calcium, but water plays a critical role in the plant's uptake and distribution of calcium. So maintaining an even supply of moisture is important in controlling blossom end rot. However, to be sure that a soil is not calcium-deficient, soil tests should be taken, and if needed, it can be applied as lime prior to planting. If you need a soil test, our office provides soil testing free of charge for Estill County.

Irrigate plants as needed, and use mulch to conserve soil moisture. Irrigate on a consistent basis. Don't allow plants to become stressed from too much or too little water. Avoid wetting foliage as much as possible as this could encourage fungal and bacterial diseases to develop on the plant. Trickle or drip irrigation is an excellent way of getting water to plants without the risk of wetting the foliage or splashing soil onto the foliage which can also lead to disease problems.

In addition, excessive amounts of ammonium tend to depress a plant's calcium uptake. Avoid using urea or fertilizers high in ammonium. Instead, choose fertilizers high in nitrate. Calcium nitrate is an excellent nitrogen fertilizer, although it is more expensive than other nitrogen sources.

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

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

Birding BITS by Cindy Brook

No Dryer Lint

There have been some questions about putting out dryer lint for nesting material. Dryer lint is actually harmful to birds and should not be used. It is very dusty, which can affect birds' respiratory systems, and becomes hard and scratchy when it gets wet. Overall, it's just not a good thing.

E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.rr.com

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The Garden Bug — Opossum facts

BY BRENDA WEAVER

Opossums can benefit your garden. They eat cockroaches, crickets, beetles, rats, mice, frogs, snails and slugs. They also eat carrion, garbage and over-ripe fruit and vegetables, and will eat pet food and bird seed if found outside.

Rabies is very rare in opossums, perhaps because they have a lower body temperature than other warm-blooded animals.

Source: www.humanesociety.org, www.yukozimo.com, www.opossum.org, wdfw.wa.gov

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Conservation District Rental Equipment

The Estill County Conservation District has the following equipment for rent at reasonable rates: Post Driver ($25 per day), No-Till Drills for seeding ($4-$5 per acre), Lime Buggy ($30 per day), Wood Chipper ($30 per day) and Log Splitter ($25 per day). This equipment was purchased for shared-use and is available to all citizens in Estill County. Out of county rental rates are also available. Not to be used for commercial purposes. For more information please contact the Conservation District at 723-5104 or find us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/ECCDKY.

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Products

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(Great for Pulled Pork)
Sausage. . . . . $3.50/Lb.
(Hot, Medium or Mild)
Whole Cured Ham. . . . . $3.50/Lb.
(Sliced is $4.00 per Lb.)
Ham Steak. . . . . $3.50/Lb.
Ham Cutlets . . . . . $3.50/Lb.
(Similar to cube steak, only ham)
Bacon. . . . . $4.25/Lb.
Jowl Bacon . . . . . $3.50/Lb.
Pork Tenderloin . . . . . $4.50/Lb.
Pork Chops . . . . . $4.00/Lb.
Spare Ribs. . . . . $3.50/Lb.
Country Style Ribs . . . . . $3.50/Lb.
Baby Back Pork Ribs . . . $3.50/Lb.
Pork Burgers. . . . . $4.00/Lb.
(Ground, pattied pork with no seasoning)
Bratwursts . . . . . $4.00/Lb.

Bundle Packages

1/4 Processed Hog $115.00
1/2 Processed Hog $210.00
Whole Processed Hog . . $440.00

Farm News

June 2nd, 3:30-8pm

UK Equine Farm & Facilities Expo

University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs will host its annual Equine Farm and Facilities Expo from 3:30 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 2 at McPeek Racing's Magdalena Farm in Lexington. Horse owners and farm managers will have the opportunity to walk through a vendor trade show and see a range of equipment and supplies for horse farms of all sizes. UK specialists will provide hands-on instruction about practical aspects of management for equine operations. There will also be farm tours.

"The expo provides horse owners the chance to attend an informative event on the grounds of a working horse farm. We appreciate Kenny McPeek for hosting this event and for opening the farm's gates to the public," said Ray Smith, professor and forage Extension specialist for the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

According to Fayette County agriculture and natural resources Extension agent Nick Carter, the expo is a unique opportunity for horse owners to learn about a wide range of topics, from pasture weed management to footing for exercise areas.

University of Kentucky experts will lead demonstrations on subjects including footing, pasture weed management and landscape decisions on horse farms. In addition, McPeek will share with attendees what he looks for in a yearling. There will also be a number of informational booths staffed by UK specialists.

McPeek Racing specializes in selection, management and training of Thoroughbred racehorses. McPeek serves on the board of UK Ag Equine Programs and has been training racehorses since 1985. The farm is located at 2651 Russell Cave Road in Lexington.

Admission to the expo is free, and a meal will be provided. Reservations are appreciated. Contact the Fayette County Extension office at 859-257-5582 to reserve a spot.

Available Now

Soil Test, Don't Guess

Farmers, gardeners, and homeowners should consider soil testing to determine what nutrients are in their soils and what nutrients are lacking that must be added for proper growth of crops, pasture, vegetables, ornamentals, or lawns. Soil testing is a special chemical analysis that provides a guideline for lime and fertilizer needs of soils. Soil testing service is available to every Kentucky citizen through the University of Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station and the Cooperative Extension Service. We have soil sample bags and soil probes we can loan.

At this time, Estill County farmers can soil test through our office for FREE thanks to funding by the Estill County Extension District Board.

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

Stickeler's Puzzle

STICKELERS [sic]. by Terry Stickels

Below are three "famous fill-ins." The answers may be a person's name, a well-known place, movie, song, etc. I'll give you a few letters and the correct number of blanks for the letters.
Example: P U _ _ _ Z _ R P _ _ Z _
Answer: Pulitzer Prize

1. S _ _ Q _ _ _ T _ N
2. B _ _ T R E _ _ O _ _ S
3. _ O _ _ N P O _ _ _ L
4. _ U _ _ _ N B _ _ B _ _

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Stickeler's Answer on Page 11

PAINTED ROOFING METAL
We offer 16 colors of our #1 grade metal roofing tin cut to the inch. Now with a 40-year warranty, this ensures a roof that will last for years.
We also have 29 gauge Galvalume.
We carry all metal roofing accessories!
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1. 5 miles south of Booneville, KY on Hwy. 11 in the Lone Oak Industrial Park

Wishing Well®

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

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

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is **LONGFELLOW**

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

UZMX SHVYMO'K QX SZM
SCFBM CXL JQQL SZTXJK T
WCO KNCX, T'W SZCXYIHB
SZCS T UCKX'S WCLM
C GMJMSCVTCX.
— MLJCV JHMKS

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CryptoQuip

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

Clue: **H** equals **E**

CQH OHRPGUCUPF BPLWHLM
RTMC IH Z IUD QUC BUCQ
PFGPPWHLM. CQHJ'LH ZGBZJM
ILUFDUFD CQH QPTMH OPBF.

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Puzzle Answers

May 6, 2015

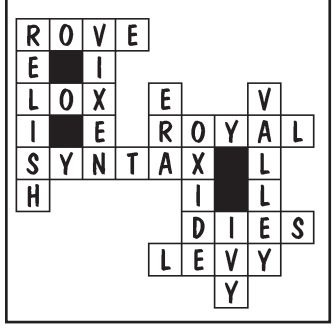
Puzzles4Kids

Answer

DIRECT	C	TRIED
HIDDEN	H	DINED
SOCIAL	A	COILS
SETTLE	T	STEEL
TASTER	T	TEARS
CEREAL	E	CLEAR
SPRINT	R	PINTS
DAMPER	P	DREAM
ARISEN	I	NEARS
SWIVEL	L	WIVES
LATHER	L	HEART
VARIED	A	DIVER
CARTER	R	REACT
HASSLE	S	LEASH

FEAR NOT

answer



Letter Box

Solution

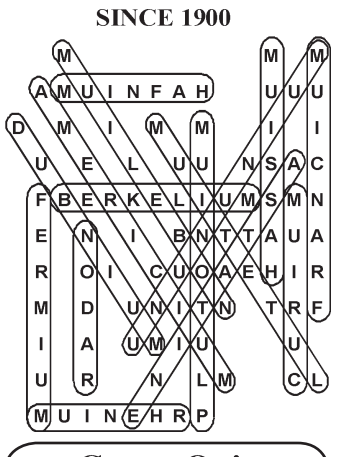
H	A	X	R	E	C	V	P	T
T	C	V	X	H	P	E	A	R
R	E	P	T	A	V	X	H	C
P	R	H	E	V	T	A	C	X
E	X	C	A	P	R	T	V	H
A	V	T	H	C	X	P	R	E
C	H	A	P	T	E	R	X	V
X	P	E	V	R	H	C	T	A
V	T	R	C	X	A	H	E	P

Even Exchange

answers

1. Recent, Repent
2. Flame, Frame
3. Horse, House
4. Biking, Viking
5. Green, Greek
6. Scrap, Strap
7. Attack, Attach
8. Peach, Perch
9. Suite, Quite
10. Comedy, Comely

ELEMENTS DISCOVERED SINCE 1900



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

CryptoQuip

answer

Song concerning a seventeen-year-old dressed warmly in wintertime:
"A Teenager in Gloves."

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

S	E	E	M	■	O	A	K	■	H	E	R	B		
I	D	E	A	■	I	K	E	■	O	L	I	O		
C	O	L	D	P	L	A	Y	■	W	A	N	T		
■	■	■	C	R	Y	■	B	L	A	N	K	S		
R	E	L	A	Y	■	B	O	A	R	■	■	■		
A	S	A	P	■	P	L	A	Y	D	E	A	D		
I	S	M	■	S	E	E	R	S	■	V	I	I		
D	E	A	D	H	E	A	D	■	H	E	N	S		
■	■	■	R	A	P	T	■	G	E	N	T	S		
V	E	N	O	M	S	■	B	O	P	■	■	■		
A	V	O	W	■	H	E	A	D	C	O	L	D		
S	E	T	S	■	O	R	B	■	A	R	I	A		
T	R	E	Y	■	W	R	Y	■	T	E	E	M		

CryptoQuote

answer

I can't take it with me, I know, but will it last until I go?
— MARTHA NEWMEYER

Bible Trivia Answers

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

ANSWERS 1) Old; 2) Nazarite; 3) Moses; 4) 2; 5) Salome; 6) Aaron