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Extensive wet weather conditions during the past fall and winter have resulted in pasture fields that have bare soil and thin vegetative cover, particularly in areas that have been used for winter feeding. Fields with thin stands of desirable pasture species are more likely to contain winter annual weeds such as chickweed, henbit, purple deadnettle, and mustard species. As these cool-season weeds die back, warm-season weeds such as common cocklebur and common ragweed will likely emerge this summer and take their place.

According to UK Extension weed scientist Dr. J. D. Green, the first step in determining weed management options is to do a critical evaluation of pasture fields in the late winter/early spring. Scout fields looking for any developing weed problems. The primary question then becomes – does the existing stand of

Pasture Weed Management Following a Wet Winter

desirable forages appear to be healthy and potentially competitive against any emerging weed problems? If the forage stand is acceptable and weed pressure is light, then the best course of action may be to wait before making any herbicide applications this spring, but focus on other routine pasture management practices to promote the growth of desirable forage species. However, if you do see developing weed problems then you may want to take action in early spring to begin to correct these problems. In some cases, there may not be any good solutions that will correct all weed problems observed. Highlighted below are some points to consider as you make those decisions.

After evaluating the field, you must decide whether or not to 1) overseed or drill more forages into an existing pasture to improve the stand of desirable forage grasses or 2) spray to control emerging broadleaf weeds. In most cases you will not be able to do both practices in the spring since most broadleaf herbicides have the potential to injure newly emerging forage grasses and legumes. For pasture herbicides containing only 2,4-D it is generally recommended to wait 4 to 6 weeks after spraying

before reseeding forage crops. Other broadleaf herbicide products may require a 6 month waiting period between application and seeding forage legumes and grasses (consult the label of specific herbicide products used). As a rule of thumb, if you decide to spray this spring you will need to wait until late summer or fall before seeding additional forages. If you reseed first, then it is recommended that you wait until the new seedlings have become well established before making a herbicide application this summer. It is important to also note that broadleaf type herbicides cannot be used in fields where clovers or other legumes have been seeded.

Another alternative to consider is the use of a partial pasture renovation technique to control or suppress growth of the weedy vegetation followed by interseeding more forage grasses or legumes. This assumes that the field is not needed for grazing animals until the newly seeded forages become well established. In this approach a herbicide product containing paraquat (eg. Gramoxone) can be applied to kill back winter annual weeds. Leaves of actively growing forage grasses will also be “burned back” by the paraquat application, but established plants

are not likely to be killed. Desirable forage grasses and legumes which have a good root system should regrow and resume active growth within a few days after treatment. Since paraquat has no soil-residual activity, desirable forages can be interseeded into the soil immediately after herbicide application. Paraquat is a “Restricted Use” pesticide, whereby only licensed and certified applicators who have completed training are allowed to purchase and apply it. Weedy plants such as curly dock, chicory, or Canada thistle with perennial roots or other weeds with established taproots (such as musk thistle) will likely survive this treatment.

If your course of action is a “wait and see” approach, keep in mind that smaller weeds are easier to control than after they increase in size. Specific details on herbicides labeled for use on grazed pastures and hay fields and their effectiveness on target weed species can be obtained from the Estill County Extension office, 76 Golden Court, Irvine.

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Wishing Well®

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

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

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CryptoQuip

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

Clue: H equals Y

BQ HMP ALL JLCCBAD QPZLA

LZRKRUBKS QJMZ AMZLUDBKS,

WMPFC HMP WRFF UDLZ JMAL-

WMFMJLC SRALA?

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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.

ZU GYRM TXM QUM FX

GHTAOURM MLYMKR PUWHYRU

ZU WHTTXM HTRZUL HQQ MKU

SYURMAXTR HPXYM MKUG.

— IULUGJ WXQQAUL

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Early spring fruit tree care



- Remove dead, diseased or crossed branches before the trees break dormancy.
- Eliminate vertical branches to allow sunlight to penetrate the interior of the tree (fruit is only produced on horizontal branches anyway.)
- Spray your trees before they leaf out with a “dormant oil” spray. It’s an effective method for reducing pests organically. - Brenda Weaver

Source: www.costafarms.com, www.growveg.com



Drops of Sunshine

Who doesn't love American Goldfinches? Here are five things they can't resist:

1. Thistle or Nyjer seed in a tube feeder.
2. Sunflower heart chips.
3. Black oil sunflower seed.
4. Purple cone flowers.
5. Fresh water. (Lots of it!)

E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.rr.com
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Americanisms



“Give a girl the right shoes,
and she can conquer the
world.”

— Marilyn Monroe

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Stickeler's Puzzle



Match the words on the left with their meanings on the right.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. palimpsest | a. To express sympathy for a person who is suffering sorrow. |
| 2. condole | b. To dislocate, to put out of joint. |
| 3. winnow | c. To drive or blow away by fanning. |
| 4. perdurable | d. A manuscript on which two or more successive texts have been written, each being erased to make room for the next. |
| 5. luxate | e. Permanent, imperishable. |

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Stickeler's Answer on Page 11

Farming News

Tuesday, April 2nd @ 6:00pm

Industrial Hemp Meeting

If you are interested in growing industrial hemp in the future, you are encouraged to attend an informational meeting Tuesday, April 2nd at the Madison County Extension office, 230 Duncannon Lane, Richmond, KY. The presentation will be broadcast live from Lexington to Madison County and Mercer County Extension offices. Topics covered are current farm bill, hemp production considerations, and hemp economics. If you would like to attend, please call Madison County Extension at 859-623-4072.

Thursday, April 4th - 9am-6pm

Tree Seedling Giveaway

The Estill County Conservation District will have a variety of tree seedlings to give to Estill County landowners on Thursday, April 4th. Seedlings will be given on a first come limited basis, as long as the trees last.

Seedlings may be picked up at the Estill County Conservation District office building located at 1505 Richmond Road, Irvine, across from Bunt Gross Auto between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 11th @ 6:00pm

Livestock Traceability Update

Cooperative Extension and Estill County Cattlemen's Association will have a cattle producer meeting on Thursday, April 11th, 6:00 p.m., at the Estill County Extension office. Dr. Chris Craig, DVM with USDA-APHIS Veterinary Services will give a U.S. livestock traceability update. Bluegrass Stockyards of Richmond will sponsor our catered meal. Please call 723-4557 to pre-register so we can adequately plan for the meal.

Puzzles4Kids

Answer

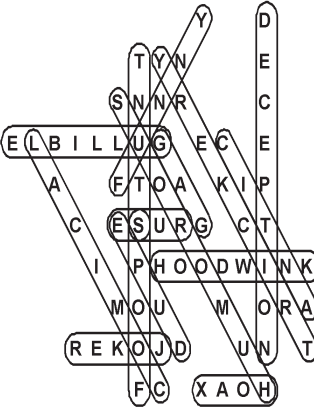
What do you get if you cross
Halloween with April first?
April Ghoul's Day.

Letter Box

Solution

I	G	Y	R	B	T	O	P	H
P	B	H	G	O	Y	R	I	T
O	R	T	P	H	I	Y	G	B
R	P	B	O	T	G	H	Y	I
G	Y	I	H	P	R	T	B	O
H	T	O	Y	I	B	G	R	P
Y	O	P	B	G	H	I	T	R
T	H	R	I	Y	P	B	O	G
B	I	G	T	R	O	P	H	Y

APRIL FOOLS' JOKES



CryptoQuip

answer

If you see reddish fumes emanating from something, could you call them rose-colored gases?

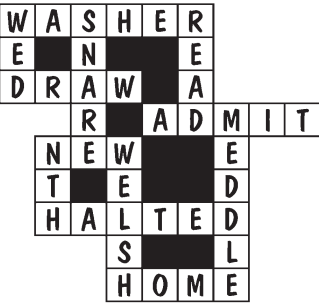
CryptoQuote

answer

We must not let go manifest truths because we cannot answer all the questions about them.
— Jeremy Collier

FEAR KN&T

answer



Even Exchange

answers

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Puppy, Peppy | 6. Bitter, Batter |
| 2. Shrink, Shrine | 7. Ember, Amber |
| 3. Garden, Warden | 8. Lodger, Logger |
| 4. Miley, Miles | 9. Silly, Sally |
| 5. Skull, Skill | 10. Fargo, Cargo |

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

GEM	DATE	SCAM
ALI	EPTC	URSA
MIN	STREL	ROIL
UPA	RADICAL	
ATTACK	TON	
LEI	HIP	GAMUT
ORAL	ART	MISO
EMEER	OAF	NET
	GAR	GAFORE
CHAPMAN	MIT	
LULU	MTN	IVANS
ELAL	ENOL	UBI
FURL	NAVY	RAP

Bible Trivia Answers

Now available by Wilson Casey! 2017 Bible Trivia box calendar loaded with daily teasers.

ANSWER: (1) Old; (2) Olives; (3) Moses; (4) 3; (5) Every-thing; (6) Light