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LINCOLN LETTER

Agriculture Edition



February on the Farm

Farming in February... time to put on your muck boots because it is going to get muddy. February tends to be a little muddy on the farm as ground freezes and thaws, freezes and then thaws again. It can make for a slippery go of things on any livestock farm as farmers work to keep their critters warm, fed, and watered.

Farming in February isn't for the faint of heart.



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LARUE CO. UPDATES

LaRue County Cattlemen's

The LaRue County Cattlemen will be hosting their meeting at the LaRue County Extension Office on February 10th at 7pm. Contact the LaRue County Extension Office for more information.

LaRue County Extension Office

February 12th and March 12th there will UK Beef Management Webinars on Zoom to learn about bull nutrition's impact on semen quality and best bull selection practices in Kentucky.

Contact the LaRue County Extension office for more information on what is happening when and how to get signed up.

Extension Office Contact Information:
807 Old Elizabethtown Rd,
Hodgenville, KY 42748
Phone: 270-358-3401
Email: larue.ext@uky.edu

DID YOU KNOW?

ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS
BORN ON FEBRUARY 12TH



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NELSON CO. UPDATES

Nelson Co. Farm Bureau Young Farmers

If you are a young farmer in Nelson County, this is a great opportunity to learn tricks of the trade and get to know other producers. Farm tours, educational meetings, and service events are all opportunities to participate locally. Not to mention, you may be able to attend the annual Kentucky Farm Bureau Young Farmer Summer Outing and Young Farmer Leadership Conference. Contact Martin Williams at 270-316-0110 for more information on how to get involved!

Nelson County Extension Office

The Nelson County Beef Cattle Association will be meeting at the extension office on February 5th at 7pm. Please contact the extension office for more information about this meeting.

Extension Office Address:
317 S 3rd Street,
Bardstown, KY 40004
Phone: 502-348-9204

TIMELY TIP:

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SOIL TESTS ON PASTURE, NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO DO SO AND TO BEGIN PLANNING FOR FERTILIZER APPLICATION.



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FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

- FSA offers farm ownership and operating loans which can qualify for joint financing with LNB to access low interest rates and specialized terms to meet your farm's needs subject to credit and program approval. Restrictions may apply. Contact LNB at 502-348-0445 for more information.
- FSA is now announcing the Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) program as a one-time bridge payment to farmers for market interruptions. Call 502-348-8664 for more information about this program.
- Applications are due for Stage One and Stage Two Supplemental Disaster Relief Program (SDRP) on April 30, 2026. Contact your local FSA office for more information.
- Sign up for Nelson County USDA updates by texting [KYNelson](text:KYNelson) to 372-669.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN SIGNED
THE MORRILL ACT
ESTABLISHING LAND GRANT
INSTITUTIONS IN 1862**



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NOTE FROM AUTHOR

Lincoln Lender

February... probably one of my least favorite months on the farm. Before you start jumping to the conclusion that I just hate the cold, that is not it. In fact, I think the cold is great, for a season. However, it brings a lot of challenges as well.

A long stint of cold weather can freeze the ground, eliminate some harmful pests, and help give nature a hard reset. It can also freeze water tanks, make equipment hard to start, and be a rough introduction for new life on the farm. Most days on the farm in February include checking water tanks, breaking ice, charging tractor/truck batteries, feeding, and bedding livestock.

February can be hard on the farmer and on the livestock. Don't get me wrong, livestock can hold up well in freezing weather. But proper nutrition and solid farm infrastructure are necessary to make it where livestock thrive instead of just survive. Some things we do on the farm to help our cattle thrive are roll out hay for bedding and nutrition, provide wind breaks, check waterers daily, and supplement grain to their diet.

I say all this to emphasize farming isn't easy this time of year, so be sure to thank a farmer for putting in the work to put food on your plate.

Martin Williams

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