



2024

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Rolling Prairie Extension Upcoming Events

March

23 Regional 4-H Club Day—Madison

29 Good Friday—Extension Offices Closed

31 Easter

April

24 YQCA Training—Sedan Fairgrounds, 7:00 pm

May

1 State Nominations Due for 4-H Market Beef

12 Fun Fish Clinic—Sedan

27 Memorial Day—Extension Offices Closed

29-31 4-H Discovery Days—Manhattan

June

15 State Nominations Due For Commercial Heifer, Market Hogs, Lambs, and Meat Goats

July

4 Independence Day—Extension Offices Closed

17-20 Elk County 4-H Fair—Longton

24-27 CQ County Fair & Rodeo—Sedan

Save a tree and cut your clutter. Did you know this newsletter can come to you digitally? Sign up to receive the Rolling Prairie Extension Newsletter digitally and be entered into a drawing for a new RTIC ice chest. Submit your email to lmbever@ksu.edu by April 15th to be entered.

Twin Cattle Births

Veterinarians are often called to pull a calf that's having trouble being born. Most of the time there's just one. But sometimes there's two. In beef cows, twins are born only one-percent of the time. An ultrasound between 45-and-90-days of gestation is the best time for indicating two embryos. Beyond that, the producer probably won't know if there is more than one calf until the cow gives birth.

Twins may sound great as you could have an extra calf to sell. However, twins are risky. Quite often only one calf will be born alive, and sometimes both calves die. Usually it's just a mal-presentation, both of the calves being presented at the same time and they'll block each other from being able to be born. If that's not noticed right away, they can lose their umbilical cord and die in utero from lack of oxygenation.

Twin calves born alive are usually less vigorous than singles so you will need to watch and make sure both are nursing. To help the bonding process, keep the mother and her babies confined in an area where she is forced to pay attention to both of them. Especially if one calf was born fine but the other one may have had some issues, slow to stand up, and those types of things. The calf that was born fine takes off and goes, and the other calf is laying there and eventually the mom will just ignore it and assume it's not hers, and so it takes a little bit of an effort to make sure that the cow takes care of both of those calves. If they're both born normally with no problem, most cows won't have a problem taking on both. Yet if one's slow, you've got to make sure that that cow doesn't leave the slow one behind.

Keep in mind that twins are heritable. If the cow has one set, she will likely have multiple sets of twins in the future.

Caring for Mail Order Chicks

Soon it will be time when lots of orders for chicks through the mail start arriving. Although chicks have the capability of extended survival after hatching, it is important that extra care is given when they arrive to get them started quickly. Know the delivery date and have your brooder set up early to be sure it is functioning. Pick them up from the US Postal Service promptly. They are likely to have been in transit for a while.

Get them comfortable. Chicks arriving in summer are sometimes overheated, so provide the proper temperature quickly, whatever is required. You can tell if the chicks are too cold by placing the bottom of their foot on your neck or back of your hand.

Make it a priority that chicks drink water as soon as you place them. To look for dehydration, turn the chick over and examine the hocks and legs. Dehydration causes darker red hocks and the veins to show on the back of the shanks, with patches of dry skin.

Nipple drinkers are excellent for poultry, but for the first day or two, try supplementing water using gravity units until they locate the nipple drinkers. Take several chicks and dip the tip of their beaks in the water so they know where to look. After most are drinking, provide feed in the form of mash or crumbles. Besides the feeder, place a bit of feed on a paper towel so they can walk through it. Provide good bright light for the first 3 days so that the chicks are able to locate food and water. You can determine if they are consuming water and food by examining the crop for fullness.



Food Recall

Basics

Food recalls happen almost daily for various reasons. But do you hear about them? Likely not, unless it is a large amount of food or affects many people in multiple states. It is important to know that food recalls are issued because the problems can lead to illness or even death. Sometimes it is just an alert to inform consumers about potential health risks. Many times the source of a problem may not be readily identified.

Food recalls are issued for many reasons, including, but not limited to:

- ♦ Bacterial contamination.
- ♦ Foreign objects in the food (i.e. metal shavings or broken glass).
- ♦ Contamination by a major food allergen and not listed on the food label.

Many food companies voluntarily issue food recalls. Those notices will come from the companies. Others will go through CDC, USDA or FDA. More information can be found at www.foodsafety.gov/recalls-and-outbreaks.



Sedan, Kansas

Annual Redbud & Barn Quilt Tour

Saturday, April 20 & Sunday, April 21, 2024
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

CALL FOR PHOTOGRAPHY Photography Art Show At Kurtis Art Center

Three Categories:

*Kansas Barns

* Barns featuring Barn Quilts

*Chautauqua County (photos must be taken in Chautauqua County, Kansas)

For more information, contact

Jolynn C. Reed

405-205-0146

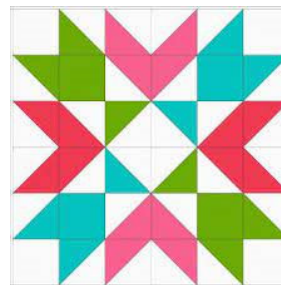
tallgrassphotographer@yahoo.com

Pick up maps and free redbud saplings at the kiosk on Main & Chautauqua in front of the Red Buffalo store



Chautauqua County

Red Bud and Barn Quilt Tour



April 20 & 21

Soil Testing

Extension has long recommended that a soil test is the basis for a proper soil fertility program.

A soil test reveals the baseline nutritional values of the soil. From this test the type and amounts of fertilizer to use can be determined. In addition, a good soil test will find the pH level of the soil and suggest corrections, if needed.

Testing the soil to determine pH and nutrients is easy. First, collect small random samples from the lawn or garden using a **soil probe**, which can be checked out at your local extension office, or a **clean**

shovel. Six to ten samples are best. Each sample should be dug to a depth of at least 4 to 6 inches. Mix all these small samples together in a clean **bucket**. From the random mix, collect two cups of soil for the actual test. Soil samples may be brought to your local Extension office. We will send your sample to the K-State Soil Testing Laboratory for analysis. Results will be mailed to you in two to three weeks.

Soil samples should be taken every three to five years to help monitor changes. For more information or to check out a soil probe, contact your local extension office.

Tips for an Egg-cellent Hunt!



Don't leave eggs at room temperature more than 2 hours



Wash your hands before and after handling eggs



Hide eggs away from pets, other critters, and chemicals



If eggs get cracked, just toss them away!

www.ksre.k-state.edu/foodsafety/topics/holiday.html



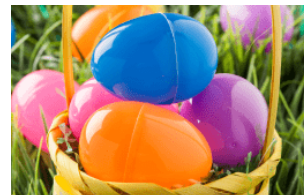
K-STATE
Research and Extension

Let the Easter Egg Hunt Begin! Easter Egg Hunt Alternatives

Sometimes eggs are decorated, used as decorations, and hunted at Easter. Here are some safety tips.

- **Dyeing eggs:** After hard cooking eggs, dye them and refrigerate within 2 hours. Use a food-safe method of coloring the eggs.
 - **Blowing out eggshells:** Use caution when blowing out the contents to hollow out the shell for decorating. Use eggs that have been kept refrigerated and are uncracked. To destroy bacteria that may be present on the surface of the egg, wash the egg in hot water and then rinse in a solution of 1 teaspoon liquid chlorine bleach per half cup of water. After blowing out the egg, refrigerate the contents and use within 2 to 4 days.
 - **Hunting Eggs:** If hard cooked eggs have been lying on the ground, they can pick up bacteria, especially if the shells are cracked. If the shells crack, bacteria could contaminate the inside. The total time for hiding and hunting eggs should not exceed 2 hours. Refrigerate and use "found" eggs within 7 days of cooking.
- ◇ Use plastic eggs and fill them with treats, fun Spring items, or numbers that correlate to the items if they're too big for the egg.
 - ◇ Plan a scavenger hunt for spring items around your house or outside.
 - ◇ Use a different color egg for each child.
 - ◇ Use paint or colored pencils and paper to draw or decorate pictures of Easter eggs, bunnies or Spring flowers.
 - ◇ After the egg hunt, have children match the colors of the eggs, count, or stack the eggs as another activity.
 - ◇ Re-hiding the eggs is always fun, especially when the little ones do the hiding.

Learn more at [USDA Shell Eggs from Farm to Table](https://www.ams.usda.gov/food-safety/eggs)



Preparing Hard Boiled Eggs

Deviled eggs are a popular Spring appetizer for Easter meals and potlucks. The trick is getting the perfect hard boiled egg.

Fresh eggs that are hard boiled can be difficult to peel. It is best to purchase fresh eggs about one week in advance for success. Keep them refrigerated until ready to use.

To prepare hard boiled eggs on the stovetop, place fresh eggs in a sauce pan and cover with water by one inch. Cover the pan and bring to a boil. Remove from the burner and let the eggs sit in the hot water

for 20 minutes. This helps keep the eggs tender and not get rubbery. Place the pan in the sink and allow cold water to pour over the hot eggs until they are cool. Remove eggs from the water and chill in the refrigerator. They can be store up to one week, unpeeled.

To peel the eggs, gently tap the eggs on a surface to crack the shell all around the egg. It helps to run the egg under water to pull the shell away from the egg. Once peeled, they can be used immediately. Keep cold in the refrigerator and use within one to two days.

Learn more at [USDA Shell Eggs from Farm to Table](#).



Deviled Eggs Photo: Canva.com

Southern Deviled Eggs

6 large eggs

2 Tbsp. mayonnaise

1 1/2 Tbsp. sweet or dill pickle relish

1 tsp. yellow mustard

1/4 tsp. kosher salt

1/4 tsp. black pepper

Garnish: paprika (optional)

Boiling the eggs: Fill a large pan with water; bring to a boil. Remove the pan from the burner, cover and let it sit for about 20 minutes. Place the pan in the sink and run cold water over them.

Peel eggs: Firmly tap the egg on a flat surface until cracks form all over the shell. I firmly roll the egg under the palm of my hand. Then, peel the egg under cold running water.

Cut the eggs in half lengthwise; remove the yolks and place in a small bowl. Set egg white halves aside.

Using a fork, mash yolks and and mayonnaise in a medium bowl. Add relish, mustard, salt, and pepper. Stir well to combine.

Fill the egg by spooning or piping (from a plastic bag with a small corner cut off) about 1 tablespoon of filling into each egg white half. Garnish with paprika, if desired. Serve immediately, or store, covered, in the refrigerator for up to 3 days.

Deviled Egg Recipe Variations

A sprinkle of paprika is the traditional topping, but you can use smoked paprika for a deep, smoky flavor, or cayenne powder to add a spicy kick. Or mix things up with other flavorful filling additions, such as chives, shallots, chili peppers, hot sauce, bacon, blue cheese, and more. Deviled eggs recipes are endlessly versatile to your menu and preferences.



Dicamba and Paraquat Training

To use the herbicides Dicamba and Paraquat, producers need to have completed training to apply these products. Paraquat training costs \$25.00. Training for Dicamba will only be needed if you have access to existing stock and plan to use it this season. Here are answers to questions you may have about training for Dicamba and Paraquat products this year.

Do all Dicamba product labels require the additional training?

You are required to have additional label-required dicamba training when applying the restricted use Dicamba products: Engenia, XtendiMax or Tavium with Vaporgrip.

Where can I get the training for 2024? BASF: (webinars, online training and face to face) engeniaherbicide.com/training.html

Bayer/Monsanto: (online training and face-to-face) <https://www.roundupreadyxtend.com/stewardship/Pages/default.aspx>

Syngenta: <https://www.syngenta-us.com/herbicides/tavium-application-stewardship>

Do I need to attend training if I already did in 2022 or 2023?

The labels of these products state that prior to applying this product in the 2024 growing season, all applicators must complete Dicamba or auxin-specific train-

ing on an annual basis, so even if you attended in 2022 or 2023 you will need to attend a training in 2024 prior to applying these products.

Do I need to be certified to use these products?

The new labels state that these formulations are for retail sale to and use only by certified applicators. In the state of Kansas, this means that everyone purchasing and using these products has to either obtain a private applicator license (application to agricultural lands owned or operated by individual) or a commercial applicator license (applicators applying to other people's land for compensation). If you have been applying under someone else's license in the past you will need to get your own license if you are applying these products.

My hired hand and I both hold private applicators licenses. He will be doing all my spraying. I am taking the Dicamba training, but does he also have to take the Dicamba training?

Yes, anyone who applies one of the RUP Dicamba products must complete an approved Dicamba training and hold either a private or commercial applicator license.

Do other states accept Kansas's state-approved RUP dicamba training?

Oklahoma does not accept online or live webinar Dicamba training provided by BASF. Colorado, Missouri and Nebraska will accept training offered by Bayer, BASF and Syngenta.

In regards to Paraquat, do all Paraquat dichloride product labels require the additional training?

All products featuring the new labeling with the active ingredient Paraquat dichloride, such as Gramoxone, Firestorm, Helmquat and Parazone will require the additional training in order to apply these products. Remember if the new training requirement is listed on the label of the product you are using, then you **MUST** complete the training.

(Continued on page 7)

Dicamba and Paraquat Training (cont'.)

Who is required to take this training?

Any person who intends to use Paraquat must be a certified applicator and is required to take this training.

How often am I required to receive the training?

The training is required every three years. Check to make sure your training is current!

Do I need to be certified to use products containing Paraquat dichloride?

The newly labeled products state that "Product may ONLY be mixed, loaded or applied by a certified applicator who has successfully completed the paraquat-specific training before use. Application "under direct supervision" of a certified applicator is NO LONGER allowed. In the state of Kansas, this means that everyone purchasing and using these products has to either obtain a private applicator license (application to agricultural lands owned or operated by individual) or a commercial applicator license (applicators applying to other people's land for compensation). If you have been applying under someone else's license in the past you will need to get your own license before applying these products.

How can I complete the training requirements?

The only training that meets the requirements is housed on the extension website and can be found by going to: <http://usparaquattraining.com>. If you don't currently have an account, you will need to create one before it will allow you to take the training. Note the course does cost \$25. For in-person training materials, please visit <https://npsec.us/paraquat>



Fair Dates Are Set

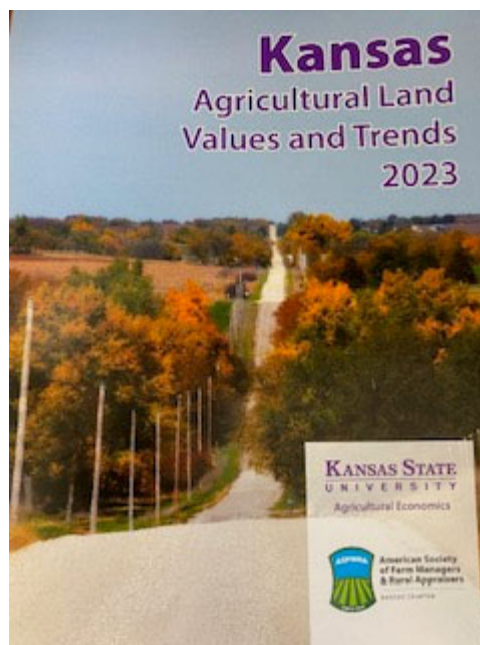
It's Fair Season again. The dates are set for the county fairs in Elk and Chautauqua Counties, the Interstate Fair and Rodeo at Coffeyville, and the Kansas State Fair. The dates are listed below.

July 17-20 Elk County 4-H/FFA Fair in Longton

July 24-27 Chautauqua County Fair and Rodeo in Sedan

August 11-17 Interstate Fair & Rodeo at Coffeyville

September 6-15 Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson



https://www.21central.k-state.edu/crops-livestock/2023_LandValuesBook_A.pdf

Did you know that Chautauqua County sold 4.1% of its total acreage and Elk County sold 2.7% in 2023? Or that soybeans are by far the largest crop in Southeast Kansas?

The Kansas Agricultural Land Values and Trends 2023 has arrived! We have 20 hard copies in each of the extension offices. If you would rather read it online, click on the photo above.

Spot Spraying Rates and Recommendations for Brush Control

Richard H Fechter
Rolling Prairie Extension District Agent Agriculture and Natural Resources

This guide offers both per acre rates and spot spraying rates of herbicides to use for controlling brush and costs based on prices from the Kansas State University 2024 Chemical Weed Control Book (SRP 1183).

A list of herbicides that are typically used for brush control and the prices that are used to calculate the cost of treatment.

<u>Herbicide</u>	<u>Manufacturer</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Active Ingredients</u>
Crossbow	Several	\$48.45/gallon	2.0 lb 2,4-D & 1.0 lb Triclopyr/gallon
Chaparral	Corteva	\$6.35/ounce	52.5% Aminopyralid & 9.45% metsulfuron
Escort XP	Bayer CS	\$4.30/ounce	Metsulfuron
Grazon Next HL	Corteva	\$61.15/gallon	0.41 lb Aminopyralid & 3.33 lb 2,4-D Amine/gallon
Remedy Ultra	Corteva	\$78.10/gallon	4.0 lb Triclopyr/gallon
Tordon 22K (<i>restricted use</i>)	Corteva	\$78.55/gallon	2.0 lb Picloram/gallon
2,4-D LVE	Several	\$30.85/gallon	6.0 lb/gallon

HEDGE: (Foliar Application) June - July. Can use Remedy Ultra **OR** Crossbow. Remedy Ultra is cheaper on a per treatment basis. One gallon of Remedy Ultra contains four times as much triclopyr as one gallon of Crossbow.

<u>Sprayer Size/Amount of Water</u>	<u>Remedy Ultra & Cost</u>	<u>or</u>	<u>Crossbow & Cost</u>
Per Acre Rate	1.5 pints/\$14.64		1.5 gallons/\$72.68
14 gallon	9 ounces/\$5.49		27 ounces/\$10.22
25 gallon	1 pint/\$9.76		1.5 quarts/\$18.17
50 gallon	1 quart/\$19.53		3 quarts/\$36.34
100 gallon	2 quarts/\$39.05		1.5 gallons/\$72.68

GENERAL BRUSH & LOCUST: (Foliar Application) June - July. Whenever you have locust trees you are treating, you need to have some Tordon 22K in your mix for more effective control.

<u>Sprayer Size/Amount of Water</u>	<u>Remedy Ultra & Cost</u>	<u>Tordon 22K & Cost</u>	<u>2,4-D LVE & Cost</u>	<u>Surfactant</u>
Per Acre Rate	1.5 pints/\$14.64	1 pint/\$9.82	1 pint/\$3.86	1 pint
14 gallon	9 ounces/\$5.49	9 ounces/\$5.52	9 ounces/\$2.17	9 ounces
25 gallon	1 pint/\$9.76	1 pint/\$9.82	1 pint/\$3.86	1 pint
50 gallon	1 quart/\$19.53	1 quart/\$19.64	1 quart/\$7.71	1 quart
100 gallon	2 quarts/\$39.05	2 quarts/\$39.28	2 quarts/\$15.43	2 quarts

Heavy Brush: (Foliar Application) June - July. Very dense with multiple species present.

<u>Sprayer Size/Amount of Water</u>	<u>Remedy Ultra & Cost</u>	<u>GrazonNext HL</u>	<u>Surfactant</u>
1 gallon	4 tsp/\$0.41	2 tsp/\$0.16	4 tsp
14 gallon	9.5 ounces/\$5.80	4.75 ounces/\$2.27	9.5 ounces
25 gallon	1 pint/\$9.76	8 ounces/\$3.82	1 pint
50 gallon	1 quart/\$19.53	1 pint/\$7.64	1 quart
100 gallon	2 quarts/\$39.05	1 quart/\$15.29	2 quarts

ROLLING PRAIRIE EXTENSION PRESENTS

Mount Rushmore, the Badlands & Black Hills of South Dakota



INCREDIBLE PRICE INCLUDES:

- ♦ Motorcoach transportation
- ♦ 6 nights lodging including 4 consecutive nights in South Dakota
- ♦ 10 meals: 6 breakfasts and 4 dinners
- ♦ Visit to the Mount Rushmore National Memorial
- ♦ Tour of Wildlife Loop Road at Custer State Park
- ♦ Admission to the Unique Journey Museum
- ♦ Guided Tour of Deadwood, plus gaming at a Deadwood Casino
- ♦ Visit to the amazing Crazy Horse Memorial
- ♦ Visit to the spectacular Badlands National Park

and much more

\$868*

7 Days 6 Nights

*PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

(Sun - Sat)
Sep 29 - Oct 5
2024

Departure: Howard, KS @ 8 am

Day 1: Board your spacious, video and restroom equipped Motorcoach and set off for the legendary Black Hills of South Dakota. Tonight, check into an en route hotel for a good night's rest.

Day 2: Today, after enjoying a Continental Breakfast, you will depart for a visit to the spectacular Badlands National Park. Then, you will go to the amazing Wall Drug Store before having Dinner and checking into your South Dakota area hotel.

Day 3: Start the day with a Continental Breakfast before heading to the BORGLUM HISTORICAL CENTER, where you will learn the story of Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor of Mount Rushmore. Afterward go to the MOUNT RUSHMORE NATIONAL MEMORIAL, America's "Shrine of Democracy" and a symbol of the nation's rich history, rugged determination, and love of freedom. Then enjoy a TOUR OF WILDLIFE LOOP ROAD at CUSTER STATE PARK. The Wildlife Loop Road takes you through rolling prairies and pine covered hills, offering one of the best spots in the region to view native animals in the wild. This evening, enjoy Dinner and entertainment.

Day 4: After enjoying Continental Breakfast, you will go to the High Plains Western Heritage Center. Then, you'll head for Deadwood, South Dakota, the former home of Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane - now the location of gaming establishments in beautifully restored historic hotels and saloons. Enjoy a GUIDED TOUR OF DEADWOOD, have some gaming excitement and later, enjoy Dinner.

Day 5: Today after Continental Breakfast, your tour takes you to the unique JOURNEY MUSEUM, which tells the complete history of the mystical Black Hills. Then, prepare for an inspirational sight at the magnificent and spectacular CRAZY HORSE MEMORIAL, destined to be the world's largest memorial upon completion. You'll also learn about the sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski, his vision, and the loving family who continues his life's work. This evening enjoy Dinner and entertainment.

Day 6: Enjoy a Continental Breakfast before leaving for the famous Corn Palace. This evening, relax at your en route hotel.

Day 7: Today, after enjoying a Continental Breakfast, you depart for home... a perfect time to chat with your friends about all the fun things you've done, the great sights you've seen and where your next group trip will take you!



U.S. Presidents
immortalized in stone at
Mt. Rushmore



Spectacular Badlands
National Park



Crazy Horse Monument to
be 10x the size of Mt.
Rushmore



Wildlife enhances the
pristine Black Hills

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States' 4-H International Exchange Programs

When you host through States' 4-H, you partner with one of the largest youth-serving organizations in America. 4-H is built on a model of positive youth development. We see hosting as an educational opportunity not just for the delegate, but also for the host family, and entire host community. States' 4-H programs focus on life skill development, including communication, tolerance, respect for others, and engaged citizenship. Our vast and multi-layered support network means there is always someone available to help if you have a question, problem, or just need advice on how to handle a particular situation. We recognize that opening your home to a teenager from a different country is a big change for most families, and we are here to support you every step of the way.

To learn more about hosting or participating in the States' 4-H International Exchange Program, click [here](https://www.states4hexchange.org/).

<https://www.states4hexchange.org/>



Composting - Two Methods

There's two methods to composting. The first is called the batch system. It's almost like baking a cake. Gather all your materials at one time – the browns and the greens. You layer it and add water. And you leave that pile intact until it's finished. That's called the batch method.

The other one is a continual method where you just continue to add material. As you turn it, the compost then filters down to the base. So, you never have a whole batch or pile finished at one time.

Both methods work. It really depends on your system. The average backyard composter probably tends to be more passive and tends to let it go. And, the continual added method does work. If you build a batch at one time, and it works well, about two weeks later the volume in the bin will decrease by about half. It heats up and implodes on itself. However, with the passive where you're not doing much to it, it just sits there until it rains or mother nature intervenes to let it break down.

The bottom line is, compost happens no matter whether you manage it or not. It's really what fits your schedule, and how you want to manage composting. There's an art, and there's a science to composting. You need to figure out what works best in your backyard, and then make it work for you.

This feature story prepared with Dennis Patton, Kansas State University Research and Extension Horticulture Agent, Johnson County. For more information, visit your local county extension office or visit our website at KansasGreenYards.org.

Seed Starter Comparison

Everyone likes to start their own seeds, but where do we start? We know we can't just start them in dirt, the little baby plants just can't push through our chunky, clay soil. To start seeds, we need a light, fluffy medium. The internet is full of people saying that their seed starting medium is the best, or better than others, or cheaper. I started an experiment with seed starter media, using four different types: peat moss, coconut coir, mushroom compost, and some store-bought that I had lying around from last year. With the three that I made from scratch, I used about a gallon of each and then added a cup of perlite for structure and a cup of vermiculite for water retention. I didn't add anything to the store-bought medium.



Then I wondered, "What would happen if I added worm castings to the medium?" I filled two 2" pots with each of the seed starters, then I worked in a heaping tablespoon of worm castings to 4 of the pots. I then added 3-4 basil seeds to each pot, watered them in, put a dome over the tray and set them on a heat mat. When I checked the tray a few hours later, it seemed pretty warm, so I elevated the tray about an inch off the heat mat to allow for air flow.

The peat moss and coconut coir grew as good or better than the store-bought medium, but only had one seed sprout in each pot, compared to 4 sprouts in the store-bought medium. Straight compost sprouted 4 plants initially, but all died. True leaves as just starting to form on day 28, the last official day of the experiment. Worm castings did not seem to make a difference in starting the seeds, but the peat and coir with worm castings did grow a little more than their counterparts.

Keeping the seed starting medium moist is key. I watered from the bottom frequently, but also misted the top as it would dry out quickly due to the lights and the circulating air. Note: a fan in the room helps circulate the air and tends to make stronger stems. All in all, my seedlings are doing great, but it's a lot of work to keep those babies happy, healthy and growing!

Seedlings on Day 28

With Worm Castings

—>

Without Worm Castings

—>



Column 1) Peat Moss 2) Coconut Coir 3) Compost 4) Store-bought

Spring Planting

CROP	TYPE OF PLANTING	TIMING
asparagus	crowns	mid-March to mid-April
kale	seed/transplants	mid-March
fennel	seed	mid-March to early-April
kohlrabi	seed	mid-March to early-April
lettuce	seed	mid-March to early-April
leeks	transplant	mid-March
onion	sets/plants	mid- to late-March
parsnips	seeds	mid-March to early-April
peas	seed	mid-March
potatoes	seed	mid-March to early-April
radish	seed	mid- to late-March
rhubarb	crowns	March to April
rutabaga	seed	mid- to late-March
spinach	seed	mid- to late-March
turnip	seed	mid- to late-March
fruit trees		mid-March

Fertilizing Cole Crops

If you planted cole crops such as cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower earlier this spring, they will need a little fertilizer boost. These plants need to mature before summer heat arrives, so they must grow quickly while the weather is cool. A sidedressing of fertilizer about 3 weeks after transplanting helps plants continue to grow rapidly.

Use fertilizers high in nitrogen for sidedressing such as nitrate of soda or blood meal at the rate of 1/3 cup per 10 feet of row. You may also use lawn fertilizers that have close to 30 percent nitrogen such as a 30-3-4 or 29-5-4 but the rate should be cut in half to 3 tablespoons per 10 feet of row. Do not use lawn fertilizers that have weed killers or preventers. Fertilizer must be watered in if timely rains don't do that job for you.

We have a sheet available that gives recommendations on how to side-dress specific vegetable crops. It can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/yckz8v3w> (Ward Upham)



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