

**AG NOTES**  
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**FARMERS MARKET**

We've had a really good market this summer. The supply has been good, the variety of products is good, and the vendors and customers are enthusiastic.

We've been open through the heat, the rains, the horse shows, and we'll continue to be there for weeks more. We've got fall crops coming in, and the vendors with other goods are working to have new products as they can.

We're next to the big blue water tower at the Celebration Grounds. We're open on Thursday afternoons at 2:30 pm. Come see us.

**MASTER BEEF SCHOOLS**

I'm going to repeat this announcement again. It's important for our cattle producers. I have scheduled my Basic Master Beef Producer series. This is an in-person training on several topics at the basic level, and it qualifies for certification for the Tennessee Ag Enhancement Program. I will cover basic reproduction, genetics, animal health, grazing management, government programs available, carcass quality, marketing, food safety, etc. This program is designed for new beef operators who have not had any training.

The dates are September 20, 21, 23, 28, 30, October 5 and 7. The sessions will be held here at the office at 2105 Midland Road. We will start at 6:00 pm and go to about 9:00 pm each night. The fee for this training is \$85 per person wishing to be certified, and one family member not being certified can attend for an additional \$25. This will cover refreshments, handouts, etc. Contact me at 931-5971 or by email to register. I will provide you a registration form for my records.

I know that I have discussed this class with many of you during the past 1 ½ years after the pandemic hit. Let's hope that nothing develops to prevent this school. As a branch of the University of Tennessee, we do fall under the UT health guidelines and at this point the pandemic is causing things to change almost daily. We will pass on guidelines as they are passed on to us for attendance closer to the meeting dates. If there is any reason for someone to not be able to attend, we will make a full refund of any registration fees paid. However, I am proceeding on with the intent to hold this basic series.

The fall 2021 series of Online Master Beef Producer is now available. This series is best designed for those who have had a basic course or training of some type. This series is a back to basic series that is advanced somewhat from the sessions of the past with some updates. Reproduction, health, genetics, marketing, nutrition, Tennessee Beef Council information, beef industry overview, and a panel discussion of all presenters at the end will be the topics. This series will qualify graduates for Master Beef Producer status for the Tennessee Ag Enhancement Program.

This webinar style Zoom series begins at 5:30 pm and runs to 7:00 pm each night (Central time). The schedule is September 13, 27, October 4, 25, November 8, 15, 22, and 29. Again, if you want to attend these online sessions, contact me and I will provide you with a registration form and registration instruction. Payment can be made by cash or check here at the office or by mail. The cost of this series will be \$85. I will take registration for this series and then give self-registration information to those who sign up.

## **AG ENHANCEMENT**

I have the application packets at the office at 2105 Midland Road and you are welcome to come by and pick one up. There are several cost-sharing projects that may help your operation, so look at the program for 2022 and look at the details. Application period is October 1-7, so it's getting close.

## **BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE**

Some applicants for livestock related projects are required to have a current Beef Quality Assurance certification from the Tennessee Cattlemen Association. I do that training by appointment and it takes about an hour. Contact me to set up a training session.

## **FALL WEBWORMS**

I've seen some trees that are full of nasty looking webs that the webworms have built with leaves and spun webs. And these trees look bad.

With these webworms there's bad news and good news. The bad news is that they make a mess, and these webs prevent treating with sprays because they cannot penetrate to reach the webworms. The good news is that these trees are mature and they can withstand this invasion. They have been healthy all season and these leaves are about to change color and drop off anyway.

I've added a picture of one of these trees. And this particular tree has these things practically every fall. It's a walnut and it has a crop of nuts on it. It just looks bad.

The trees to be concerned about are the young trees with tent caterpillars in webs at the trunk and limb junctions. These larvae will strip the leaves off of the young trees early in the spring and this can damage the young trees. Watch for these in the spring.



