

AG NOTES
By John Teague
UT/TSU Extension
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COMING PROGRAMS

FARMING FUNDAMENTALS

Dr. Charley Martinez, UT Ag Economics Extension specialist, has announced the Farming Fundamentals series is launched and open for registration. The link to the website is below and there is the description of the series at that site.

<https://arec.tennessee.edu/extension/farming-fundamentals/> The link to the registration site is on the website.

This series is in a different format. There are five videos that are required and four that are optional to pick out three. This series was designed by the Ag Economics Department to help beginning farmers. Topics include Financial Statements, Taxes, Farming Foundations, Business Actions, Livestock Basics, Specialty Crops, Value Added, and Crops.

This series is available to help beginning farmers meet the requirements for the Tennessee Ag Enhancement Program. The cost is \$100 for the series. Details are on the website and the registration site.

MASTER FARM MANAGER

A new version of the manager series is now ready for registration. The Master Farm Manager Course will utilize a hybrid method, with both prerecorded videos and live Zoom webinars. Eight sessions must be completed to receive a certificate. There are five live sessions and three recorded sessions. Topics include equipment purchase decision process, farm entity formations in Tennessee, lease agreements, trade issues, financial statements, borrowing costs, taxes, and farm and management transition.

This series is very popular, and there are new additions to the topics. Deadline is January 15 for mail-in and January 25 for online. Go to the website <http://masterfarmmanager.tennessee.edu/> for registration and program details.

This series will qualify for 50% reimbursement with Tennessee Ag Enhancement Program for several projects listed on the flyer.

LANDSCAPING COURSE

The 2022 Landscape Short Course will be held January 11th and 12th @ the Williamson County Ag Expo Park, 4215 Long Lane, Suite 200 Franklin, TN 37064. We will also be offering a virtual option for those who cannot attend in person.

Fee for the class will be \$100 for virtual attendees (via Zoom) and \$125 for those planning to attend in-person. Lunch and snacks will be provided both days for those joining on site. Registration and more information: <https://williamson.tennessee.edu/landscape-short-course/> Pesticide points will be awarded in Categories 2 (January 11 only), 3, 10 and 12.

NOTE: I can provide registration site links via email that will work to get you to these programs. Contact me at 931-684-5971 or by email jteague1@utk.edu

WISDOM

This is one of my favorites. The Cornerstones section of the Progressive Farmer has a collection of quotes about dogs. Over the years I have had dogs that were friends. My first dog Snowball, two Beagles named Precious and Booger, a Redbone hound named Ramblin' Rose, my Queensland Cattle Dogs named Bear and Penny, a Cocker Spaniel named Sandy, and our assortment of Jack Russell canines, Kiwi, Millie, and Roxy, and our Wire Fox terrier Zoey.

They've all been special at different times of my life, and I think about those times occasionally. When you've had a special dog in your life, that's something. I've had a great group, more than most folks. I'm lucky that they picked me!

There are some really good quotes that most dog owners, or those owned by their dogs, will understand. George Carlin said "What do dogs do on their day off? Can't lie around...that's their job!" Elayne Boosler said "My fashion philosophy is, if you're not covered in dog hair, your life is empty." Robert Wagner said "A dog will teach you unconditional love. If you can have that in your life, things won't be too bad." Edith Wharton said "My little dog...a heartbeat at my feet."

Dean Koontz said "Petting scratching, and cuddling a dog could be as soothing to the mind and heart as deep meditation, and almost as good for the soul as prayer." Charles Shulz said "All his life he tried to be a good person. Many times, however, he failed. For after all, he was only human. He wasn't a dog." Nora Ephron said "When your children are teenagers, it's important to have a dog so that someone in the house is happy to see you."

Gilda Radner said "I think dogs are the most amazing creatures; they give unconditional love. For me, they are the role model for being alive." C. S. Lewis said "Once when I had remarked on the affection often found between cat and dog, my friend replied, 'Yes, but I bet no dog would ever confess it to the other dogs.' " Doris Day said "I have found that when you are deeply troubled, there are things you get from the silent devoted companionship of a dog that you can get from no other source."

The master observer and spokesman on many life things and a favorite character of mine was Will Rogers. He said "If there are no dogs in heaven, I want to go where they went."