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SIGN UP FOR 4-H CLOVER COLLEGE!
Four days of fun workshops for youth ages 6 & up, June 19–22!
— see pages 9 & 11

Western Horse Showmanship at Lancaster County Fair

Youth/Adult Partnership is Key to Success of 4-H Horse Program

Marty Cruickshank
UNL Extension Associate

The Nebraska 4-H mission statement is, “To empower youth to reach their full potential working and learning in partnership with caring adults.” This mission is strong within the ranks of the Lancaster County 4-H Horse Program, which is the largest county horse program in the state. Currently there are 357 Lancaster County youth enrolled in the 4-H horse project and 22 horse clubs. More than 55 dedicated adult volunteers work hard to make the horse program a meaningful, learning experience for youth.

4-H Horse Project
The University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension 4-H Youth Development program emphasizes learning by doing. Through hands-on projects, youth develop practical and life skills. The 4-H Horse Project follows curriculum provided by UNL, which includes information on feeding, anatomy and training methods. As 4-H’ers work with their horse project, they develop responsibility, self-discipline and patience.

Within the curriculum are four built-in advancement levels which serve as guides for instruction and evaluation of each 4-H member’s progress. Levels include written tests, club demonstrations, papers on health care and feeding, and also skills tests. 4-H member Josie Ang (age 10) says, “4-H makes me set high goals for me through my horse and has taught me about sportsmanship.”

Adult Volunteers
Lancaster County 4-H is lucky to have many knowledgeable, caring and supportive club leaders who provide the frontline leadership for the 4-H Horse Program. These adults are the ones who organize meetings and teach the horse curriculum to club members. Since horses are large animals and can be dangerous if not handled right, leaders need to know how to keep kids and horses safe.

At the core of the Lancaster County 4-H Horse Program is a very active VIPs (Volunteers in Program Service) Committee which meets monthly. Many club leaders are on the VIPs Committee. Horse VIPs sponsor clinics, organizes an incentive program, helps with skills level testing and provides vital support for the county fair horse show. They determine county fair classes and rules, help hire judges and raise money for trophies. Members act as superintendents for fair classes.

Keith Dey, president of Horse VIPs, says, “4-H gives me the chance to help some of Lancaster County’s finest youth learn—and to learn from them. It’s like being a part of a huge family, providing opportunities, teaching, learning and caring.”

Lincoln has two active adult horse clubs—the Salt Creek Wranglers and the Capitol City Horse & Pony Club—which go out of their way to support youth activities. They host quality local shows for youth to participate in and learn from. Behind each horse exhibitor is a family who gives hands-on support by hauling the horse, helping put on tack and other tasks. Younger kids even need help getting on their horse. Owning a horse takes a significant financial and time commitment. Many families make sacrifices in other areas in order to be able to afford the horse project.

Educational Opportunities
The 4-H Horse Program offers numerous educational clinics throughout the year. Local, district and state horse shows are learning opportunities while also allowing youth to exhibit their horsemanship skills. The state Horse Stampede features academic horse contests such as judging, quiz bowl, art, speech and demonstration.

The Lancaster County Fair has the largest county fair 4-H horse show in Nebraska. It is a five-day show with nearly 100 classes (including dressage, jumping, English, ranch & roping, trail, western rail, games, miniature horse and judging). In 2006, there were 1,500 total horse entries at the fair.

“The dedication needed to successfully show an animal at this level provides an excellent outlet for youth,” says Kala Ball, see 4-H HORSE on page 10.
Shade trees provide much-needed comfort when temperatures begin to rise. However, shade trees contribute to the landscape in ways and should be carefully chosen to obtain maximum benefits. Besides keeping the landscape cool, shade trees add beauty to the landscape. Shade trees can also help homeowners save energy by reducing cooling and heating costs. For example, trees planted on the south or southwest corner of a house can provide shade during the warmest part of the day and decrease the cost of running an air conditioner. It is important to know that different trees create various amounts of shade. Honeylocust, for example, creates a filtered shade that allows patches of sunlight to reach the ground beneath. Sugar maple, on the other hand, has dense foliage that may prevent some turfgrasses and forbs from growing under the canopy. If turf quality is a concern, it may be best to select grasses such as certain selections of fescue or bluegrass that better tolerate shade. The key to planting shade trees is to think ahead,” says Dennis Adams, UNL forestry specialist. “Before planting a shade tree, visualize what the tree will look like in the years to come. Certain species may grow too large to be planted close to buildings and will have to be cut down.”

The type of shade tree planted depends on personal preference. However, select species that are hardy and adapted to Nebraska. Hardiness is generally not a problem with native trees, but select trees that will not contribute to storm and wind damage.

Take Steps to Reduce Severe Weather Damage on Homes

Severe weather season makes it even more important to make home repairs and renovations that will reduce the impact and damage costs from high winds and other aliments.

According to key Niemeyer, Ph.D., UNL housing and environment specialist, “Severe thunderstorms, wind and hail can do damage to house exterior surfaces, drive in rain, break windows, damage roofs. Straight winds or downbursts, with winds of 58 miles per hour can create a large amount of damage and can cause significant damage to well-constructed homes and remove roofs.”

Winds in Nebraska can reach hurricane category levels with at least one wind speed recording in Nebraska at 145 mph. As a comparison, hurricane category one wind speeds are at 74-95 mph and category two at 96-110 mph. Vertical winds associated with tornadoes can be strong enough to temporarily levitate heavy objects, such as roofing, off some homes” says Niemeyer. “Although damage to homes from disasters can’t be completely prevented, it can be reduced.”

Changes in materials can help reduce damage to homes from wind and thunderstorms. Home insurance companies may even provide reduced insurance costs when certain types of disaster-resistant materials are used. For example, some metal shingles and roof types are more resistant to hail and wind.

Install impact-resistant windows that have a better chance of surviving a windstorm and hail. Also, larger overhangs may protect windows from hail, high winds, falling objects or trees. According to the Institute for Business and Home Safety or IBHS, doors should have at least three hinges and a dead bolt security lock with a bolt at least one inch long. Door frames should be anchored securely to wall framing and sliding glass doors should be installed with impact-resistant doors made of laminated glass, plastic glazing or a combination of plastic and glass.

If replacing a roof, make sure both the roof covering and the sheathing it attaches to will resist high winds, hail, and wind-driven water. Old coverings should be removed down to the bare wood sheathing. Inspect the sheathing for needed repairs and how well it is anchored to the roof. Add screws and additional fasteners or nails to secure the sheathing. In tests, a few nails through sheathing that miss the trusses can expose the home’s interior of the home to major damage if the sheathing is caught and lifted by winds.

Installation of roofing designed to resist high winds and shingles that are more resistant to hail like some types of metal shingles. Modified asphalt shingles also are likely to perform well in hailstorms. Ask about hail impact tests, wind-driven rain and wind resistance and compare various shingles.

Seal roof sheathing joints with self-stick rubberized asphalt tape to provide a secondary moisture barrier. If the roof sheathing needs added protection, glue the sheathing to the rafters and the trusses. The addition of hurricane clips can make roof structures more secure.

“Points where the roof and the foundation meet the walls of the house are very important in resisting high winds and the pressure put on the entire structure,” says Niemeyer. “Make sure the walls are properly anchored to the foundation.”

IBHS also recommends anchoring the roof to the walls with metal clips and straps. Make certain that the upper story wall framing is solidly connected to the lower framing in multi-story homes. A construction engineer or architect can help determine if additional framing is needed retrofitting. Security or bolting the house sill plates to the foundation and the roof to the wall also may result in less wind damage and may help lessen peripheral damage from nearby tornadoes.

Garage doors are highly vulnerable to wind damage, especially garage doors more than eight feet wide. Permanent wood or metal stiffeners can be installed. IBHS suggests contacting the door’s manufacturer for recommendations about temporary or household supports that can be attached when severe weather threatens and then removed easily.

Wind breaks are also important to direct wind currents and buffer winds. Weak trees and limbs that may damage the roof or be blown if hit by high winds should be removed. Remove trash and objects from around your yard or home that could become wind borne or secure them to the ground.

Finally, review your homeowners or renters insurance with your agent to clarify what is and is not covered such as mold following a rain and wind incident or tornado.

Additional bracing and support reinforces roofs and can prevent wind damage.

Select Shade Trees to Meet Personal Landscape Objectives

Shade Odor by Deodorizing, Neutralizing Home, Clothing

Stephen Ventassels
UNL Extension Project Coordinator;
Scott Hygrastton
UNL Wildlife Damage Specialist

When alarmed or threatened skunks can spray people, pets and automobiles. They also are known to spray inside basements, garages, window wells and under porches. The musk they spray is a yellow-tinted oily liquid that can temporarily blind and stun individuals sprayed in the face. Victims also may experience watering eyes, nasal irritation and nausea. Asthmaatics may experience breathing difficulties. The rabies virus is not transmitted through skunk musk.

When deodorizing, consider removing the source of the odor, ventilate the area with fresh air and washing or applying deodorants to the source of the odor. Air fresheners can be used to mask residual odor in the air and laundry detergent may be used to remove residual odor in fabrics. Never overlook the act of taking a shower, changing into clean clothes and washing clothes to rid of skunk odor. Other treatments include washing items with a strong soapy water or a laundry detergent or borax. Be sure to follow any directions that are specific to washing a particular fabric.

A chemical solution that neutralizes skunk odor contains 1 quart of 3 percent hydrogen peroxide, 1/4 cup baking soda and 1 to 2 teaspoons liquid dish soap. The ingredients should be mixed in an open container. Never mix the ingredients in advance because the oxygen released from the hydrogen peroxide could cause a liquid container to explode. This solution can be used externally on pets or people. Avoid getting the solution in the eyes. Avoid getting the solution on clothing because the tomato smell is so strong.

When deodorizing a house, be sure to wear rubber gloves and protective clothing. Avoid getting the solution on the skin or clothing. Allow the solution to remain on hair and laundry detergent are not transmitted through skunk musk. When deodorizing, consider removing the source of the odor, ventilate the area with fresh air and washing or applying deodorants to the source of the odor. Air fresheners can be used to mask residual odor in the air and laundry detergent may be used to remove residual odor in fabrics. Never overlook the act of taking a shower, changing into clean clothes and washing clothes to rid of skunk odor. Other treatments include washing items with a strong soapy water or a laundry detergent or borax. Be sure to follow any directions that are specific to washing a particular fabric.

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Low-Toxic Fly Management for Horses

Barb Ogg
UNL Extension Educator

During warmer months, house and stable flies are common pests around equine facilities. House flies are primarily a nuisance, although they are potential disease vectors. On the other hand, stable flies cause a painful bite, especially on the sides of the neck, lower legs and underbelly of animals—places where the animal cannot defend itself very well. In the absence of an animal, stable flies also bite people occasionally on bare lower legs (Figure 1).

House flies and stable flies breed in organic matter mixed with animal manure. Common places include spoiled animal feed or soiled straw bedding. High numbers of stable flies cause animals to become weakened from blood loss, nervous and irritable.

Sanitation is Important

To reduce fly breeding sites, there is no substitution for sanitation. Maintain sanitary conditions in and around your equine facility including:

• Removal of manure from stalls, barns, corrals, exercise areas and turnout areas.
• Cleaning up leftover or spilled feed, grain and hay on a daily basis.
• Keeping manure storage areas dry. As soon as possible, spread manures and pastures so it can be exposed to sunlight and dry out.
• Making sure all stables and barn have proper drainage to eliminate wet and moist areas where flies can breed.

Larval Control with Insect Growth Regulators

There are a number of insecticidal products that control adult flies, including premise sprays, bait stations and on-animal insecticides. These provide only temporary relief and must be reapplied frequently.

However, there are some newer products that control larval flies at the source, in the manure. The active ingredients of these products are known as insect growth regulators (IGRs) which interfere with growth and development of fly maggots.

How do IGR products work? The life cycle of a fly consists of egg, larva (maggot), pupa and adult (Figure 2). The adult female fly lays eggs in manure or in other suitable organic matter. The eggs hatch into tiny maggots, which feed on the manure. These maggots molt several times to larger stages. When maggots reach maturity, they pupate, later emerging as adults.

There are two active ingredients found in IGR products registered for fly larval control on horses: diflubenzuron and cyromazine. Diflubenzuron and cyromazine are called chitin synthesis inhibitors because they interfere with the formation of chitin, the primary component of the insect cuticle (the skin).

Insects exposed to these IGRs will not molt properly so most of the maggots will die when they molt and flies will not emerge from the manure. These products control the flies while in the manure and are more efficient than relying on fly sprays.

Diflubenzuron is found in the feed-through products Simplify™ and Equitrol® II, manufactured by Farnam. These products are identical. Simplify and Equitrol II are top dressed on grain or mixed with the ration to provide 6.8 mg per 100 pounds of body weight. For a 1,000-pound horse, the dosage is 1 ounce Equitrol II or Simplify per day.

Cyromazine. The product containing cyromazine and registered in Nebraska for flies is Solitude IGR™. It is an alfalfa-based pellet, marketed by Pet Health Animal. Dosage of Solitude is not based on body weight, but each horse should be fed 1/2 ounce Solitude per day.

Safety and Effectiveness. Because nothing is a process only arthropods do, warm-blooded animals, including birds and mammals will not be affected by IGRs. Studies have shown these products are safe for house, barn and yard animals (including humans), beneficial insects and non-target organisms. For best results, start feeding these additives before the beginning of the fly season, continue through the summer and into the fall until cold weather reduces fly activity.

If you decide to use an IGR larval control product mid-season, you may need to use products that control adult flies (such as on-animal insecticides, premise sprays and bait stations) until the IGR product population under control. Then use these additional products only as needed.

Where to Find These Products? These products are offered where equine feed and supplies are sold or through veterinarians. In the Lincoln area, these products can be found at Fort Western and Tractor Supply Company (both locations) [Note: this link may be updated from time to time]. These products can also be purchased from internet vendors.

Problems with Control. Sometimes flies will not be controlled as well as one would like. This can occur when:

1. Sanitation is not good. Flies breed in organic matter other than manure. Spoiled feed or hay, wet bedding, grass clippings, poorly managed compost and other organic matter will breed flies. These IGR feed-through products only control flies breeding in manure.

2. For some reason, horses do not get the recommended daily IGR dose. If you do not have the ability to control dose, control may not be achieved.

3. Other livestock or pet waste is producing flies.

4. Flies from surrounding areas travel to your equine facility. If your neighbors have livestock/horses and is not controlling his fly population, even the best fly management will be compromised. Studies have shown flies can travel consider distances and highly house and stable flies will only travel a mile or two.

5. Resistance by flies to these IGR products is possible, especially if you use the same product year after year. If the product you have chosen seems to lose its effectiveness over time, you may need to use a different product or approach.

What About Using Parasites for Fly Control?

Another non-toxic approach to use parasitic wasps which lay eggs in immaturity insects. The wasp larva quickly hatches, feeds on the pupa and kills it before it emerges. However, research studies in Nebraska showed wasp releases did not achieve the recommended population. The wasp larva quickly hatches, feeds on the pupa and kills it before it emerges. However, research studies in Nebraska showed wasp releases did not achieve the recommended population. The wasp larva quickly hatches, feeds on the pupa and kills it before it emerges. However, research studies in Nebraska showed wasp releases did not achieve the recommended population. The wasp larva quickly hatches, feeds on the pupa and kills it before it emerges. However, research studies in Nebraska showed wasp releases did not achieve the recommended population. The wasp larva quickly hatches, feeds on the pupa and kills it before it emerges.

To become more informed about termites, attend a workshop, “Everything Homeowners Need to Know about Termites and Termite Control.” At the University of Nebraska Extension Educators, Barb Ogg, Dennis Ferraro and Pesticide Education Specialist, Clyde Ogg, will discuss termite biology and behavior, home inspection tips, differences between barrier treatments and treatments and how treatments should be done for best termite control. Tim Creger, pesticide program manager of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, will discuss how to properly it is important for homeowners to read and understand termite labels.

This workshop will be held at the following Nebraska locations:

- May 3—Omaha, Douglas-Sarpy Counties Central Office; 8400 144th Street, located on the Cass County Fairgrounds, 6:30–9:30 p.m.
- May 17—Lincoln, Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road 6:30–9:30 p.m.

There is a $25 registration fee for this workshop. In addition to training, participants will receive up-to-date reference materials. For more information or registration form, go to http://lancaster.unl.edu/pest/termite.shtml or call 443-7180.
The First Step to Food Safety — Clean!

Whether you’re looking for a handout about the new MyPyramid, a handwashing poster in Spanish or a PowerPoint presentation, check the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County Web site at http://lancaster.unl.edu/food/resources.shtml

Nearly 50 FREE food, nutrition and food safety educational materials can be downloaded!

The best place to thaw frozen perishable foods—like frozen meat, poultry, seafood, vegetables, fruit and cooked pasta and rice—is in the refrigerator! Make sure your refrigerator is 40 degrees F or lower. Thaw packages of meat, poultry and seafood on a plate on the bottom shelf of the refrigerator. This prevents their juices from dripping on other foods.

When microwave defrosting perishable food, cook it immediately after thawing. Some areas of the food may start to cook during microwave defrosting and become warm. Any bacteria present wouldn’t have been destroyed and may reach optimal temperatures for growth.

Download FREE Educational Materials Online!
Cleaning Up After Getting Dirty

The cleaning season is here, when working inside or outside the home you may get a variety of stains. Grass, pollen, mud, dirt, paint and rust stains will appear with around-the-home cleanup. Here are some tips to clean up the stains.

Grass: Pretreat or presoak stains using a liquid laundry detergent or a prewash stain remover. Follow the directions on the label. Launder, using the hottest water safe for the fabric. If the stain persists, launder again using chlorine bleach, if safe for the fabric, or oxygen bleach.

Mud and dirt: Let the mud dry thoroughly. Brush off as much mud as possible. Pretreat with a paste of powder detergent and water, liquid laundry detergent or a liquid detergent booster. Launder or liquid laundry detergent or a prewash stain remover or a prewash stain remover. Follow the directions on the label. Launder, using the hottest water safe for the fabric. If the stain persists, launder again using chlorine bleach, if safe for the fabric, or oxygen bleach.

Paint, water-based: Rinse the fabric in warm water while the stain is fresh. Rinse and launder. Once the paint is dry, it can't be removed.

Paint, oil-based: Treat the stain while it is fresh. Use the same solvent the label on the paint can recommends as a thinner. If the label isn't available, use turpentine. Read the garment care instructions and test the solvent on an inconspicuous area of the garment before treating the stain. Rinse. Pretreat with preswash stain remover or laundry detergent. Rinse and launder.

Pollen: Gently shake the stained item to remove as much pollen as you can. Then use the sticky side of a piece of tape to lift off the remaining particles. Pretreat with a preswash stain remover. Launder using the hottest water safe for the fabric, or oxygen bleach.

Rust: Use a commercial rust remover on metal, metal surfaces and tile or wood) floors. Apply directly to the stain. Let it sit for two or three minutes. Work the product into the stain. For heavy stains, pretreat with a prewash stain remover or liquid laundry detergent, and then wash in warm water. Line or air dry. If the stain remains, repeat the procedure. Use chlorine bleach in the wash, if safe for the fabric.

Rust remover, available in supermarkets and hardware stores. These products contain toxic acids, so be sure to read and follow the label directions carefully. Never use chlorine bleach or a product containing chlorine bleach on a rust stain. It will permanently set the stain.

FCE Scholarship Applications Due May 1

A $400 scholarship provided by the Lancaster County Family and Community Education (FCE) Council is available for a graduate of a high school in Lancaster County or a permanent resident of Lancaster County majoring in Family and Consumer Science or a health occupation. This is open to full-time students beginning their sophomore, junior or senior year of college in the fall of 2007 or who have completed two quarters of study in a vocational school. Applications are due May 1 in the extension office.

District Meeting Report

Thirty-five members attended the Southeast District FCE meeting held on March 29 at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. State FCE President Dixie Allbery reported on the past year’s work and a review of 2007 programs. An interesting program “Chocolate...Chocolate...Chocolate” was given by Fayrene Hamouz, UNL Associate Professor in Culinary Arts. Otoe County members presented a Hearth Fire Series skit—“Woman to Woman...Searching for Chocolate.” Lancaster County FCE member Janet Broer is serving as Southeast District Director this year.

Sizzling Summer Sampler, July 10

Mark Tuesday, July 10 at 6 p.m. on your calendar for the Sizzling Summer Sampler. Learnshops will follow a light meal. Invite your friends to join you for this fun evening!

Everyone is welcome. Club Baskets

FCE clubs are asked to prepare baskets for the scholarship raffle. Baskets were distributed at the March Council Meeting, if your club was not represented or want additional baskets, call the office. Choose any theme and use your creativity. The raffle will be held at the Sizzling Summer Sampler.

May is Clean Air Month

Clean air is important for healthy lifestyles. Many youth and adults are affected by asthma. Asthma attacks are caused by the airways’ sensitivity to various triggers in the environment. Eight million Americans react differently to these environmental factors that may trigger asthma, including: respiratory infections, colds, cigarette smoke, allergic reactions to pollen, mold, animal dander, feathers, dust mites, scents, foods and cockroaches. Exposure to cold or sudden temperature changes excite/stress. Asthma can develop quickly and it can range from being a mild discomfort to a life-threatening attack if breathing stops completely. Asthma problems are often separated by symptom-free periods.

Dust mites are found in all homes and a cause of asthma problems. Dust mites are tiny microscopic animals related to ticks and spiders living in virtually every home. Dust mites feed on skin flakes and can be found throughout the home, including mattresses, pillows, carpets and furniture. These creatures produce airborne particles (allergens) that can trigger allergic reactions or asthma attacks in people who are susceptible to them. The higher level of mite allergens in the home, the greater risk to children living in the home.

Ways to Control Dust Mites

• Use a dehumidifier or air conditioner in the summer to maintain the relative humidity in your home at 50 percent or below. Reducing moisture in your home is the single most effective control for dust mites—they thrive in high humidity.

• Encase your mattress and pillows in dust-proof or allergy-impermeable covers (available from specialty supply mail order companies, bedding and some department stores). Dust mite levels in mattresses are most closely linked with asthma attacks than dust mites on the floor.

• Wash bedding and blanket once a week in hot water (at least 130–140 degrees F) to kill dust mites. 

• Replace wool or feather-stuffed bedding materials with synthetic materials. Select washable stuffed animals and toys.

If possible, replace wall-to-wall carpets in bedrooms with hard surface (linoleum, tile or wood) floors. Use a damp mop or rag to remove dust. Never use a dry cloth this stirs up mite allergens in the air.

• Use a central vacuum cleaner vented to the outdoors or a vacuum cleaner with either a double-layered micro-filter bag or a HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) filter to trap allergens that pass through a vacuum's exhaust.

• Use a dehumidifier in the home, including high efficiency furnace filters and whole house electronic air cleaners, may be helpful in reducing indoor air pollutants when used with effective source control and ventilation.

For more in-depth information on asthma and asthma resources, go to www.lungusa.org.

Source: American Lung Association

Removing After-Prom Stains

Before you begin, check the fabric care labels. Some, such as shawls, pocket handkerchiefs or dress shirts may be washable, but tuxedos and most prom dresses are dry only.

Deodorant: Check to see if the stain has changed the color of the fabric. If so, apply ammonia to fresh stains; white vinegar to old ones. Then, rinse and launder. A second year for those who have been there before (first, if there’s been no color change) is to use a preswash stain remover. Launder using the hottest water safe for the fabric, or oxygen bleach in the hottest water safe for the fabric.

Makeup: Pretreat with a prewash stain remover or liquid laundry detergent. Launder in the hottest water safe for the fabric.

Lip balm and lipstick: Pretreat the stain with a prewash stain remover or liquid laundry detergent, and then wash in warm water. Line or air dry. If the stain remains, repeat the procedure. Use chlorine bleach in the wash, if safe for the fabric.

Perfume: Pretreat with a prewash stain remover or liquid laundry detergent. Launder in the hottest water safe for the fabric.
Use Your Records to Locate Inefficient Pumping Plants

Step 1. Calculate the water horsepower output of the pumping plant.

\[
\text{whp-h = acre-inches/ pumped x total head (feet) / 8.75 \text{ whp-h / acre-inches}}
\]

Where:
- w = water horsepower hours
- acre-inches = volume of water necessary to cover an acre one inch deep = 27,154 gallons.
- total head (feet) = lift (feet) + system pressure (feet)
- lift = distance (feet) from the water level inside the well casing to the discharge head while pumping.
- system pressure (feet) = psi x 2.31 ft/lp

Step 2. Performance = whp-h / fuel used for the test period

Step 3. Performance rating = (performance / NPC for the energy source) x 100%

Step 4. Potential fuel savings = ((100% - % NPC) / 100) x fuel used for the test period

Step 5. Potential dollar savings = fuel savings x fuel price

Example:
- Test period: entire irrigation season
- System: center pivot sprinkler system with a diesel engine.
- Pumping water level: 140 feet
- Pressure at the discharge head: 40 psi
- Acre-inches of water pumped (from water meter): 1,415
- Total fuel used for test period = 3,571 gallons of diesel
- Diesel fuel price: $2.20/gallon

Step 1. whp-h = acre-inches/ pumped x total head (feet) / 8.75
= 1,415 x (140 + (40 x 2.31)) / 8.75
= 1,415 x (140 + 92.4) / 8.75
= 1,415 x (232.4) / 8.75
= 37,518 whp-h

Step 2. Performance = whp-h / fuel used for the test period
= 37,518 whp-h / 3,571 gallons
= 10.5 whp-h / gallon

Step 3. Performance rating = (performance / NPC for the energy source) x 100%
= (10.5 whp-h / gallon / 12.5 whp-h / gallon of diesel) x 100%
= 84%

Step 4. Potential fuel savings = ((100% - % NPC) / 100) x fuel used for the test period
= ((100% - 84%) / 100) x 3,571 gallons of diesel
= 0.16 x 3,571 gallons
= 571 gallons

Step 5. Potential Dollar Savings = Fuel savings x Fuel price
= 571 gallons x $2.20 per gallon
= $1,256.20

Online Workbook

UNL Extension Educator Tom Dorn has created an Excel workbook to simplify the calculations. The workbook can be run online in most Internet browsers or downloaded to a user’s computer and opened in Excel. Go to http://lancaster.unl.edu/ag/crops/irrigate.shtm — scroll down, then click on Long Term Pump.xl

May is Time to Control Leafy Spurge

Tom Dorn
UNL Extension Educator

In my travels around the country, I have seen many patches of Leafy spurge. Leafy spurge is a noxious weed according to the Nebraska Noxious Weed Law and the Nebraska Noxious Weed Law. Leafy spurge is found primarily on untilled land such as pastures, range, roadsides, woodlands and farmsteads. It is mildly poisonous to cattle and can effectively ruin the carrying capacity of patches where it is growing because cattle soon learn to avoid grazing near it.

Identification

Leafy spurge is a persistent, deep-rooted perennial which reproduces by seeds and roots. Leafy spurge has a somewhat woody crown below the soil surface. Each crown area produces several upright stems giving the plant a clump-like appearance. In addition, new stems arise from buds on lateral, secondary roots. See Figure 1. Stem growth starts in April, making leafy spurge an early, vigorous competitor with forage and pasture plants. The plant bears numerous linear-shaped leaves with smooth margins. Leaves have a bluish-green color but turn yellowish or reddish-orange in late summer. Leafy spurge produces a flat-topped cluster of yellowish-green, petaled-like structures called bracts, which bear the true spurge flowers. The showy, yellow bracts appear in May and give the plant a “blooming” appearance. See Figure 2. The true spurge flowers, however, develop about 10 days later and have small, green bracts. See Figure 3. The distinction between yellow bract appearance and true flowering is important for timing herbicide applications. Spot-applied herbicides are more effective when applied on plants with developing true flowers.

Seeds are borne in pods which contain three gray-brown, sometimes speckled, oblong, smooth seeds. At maturity, pods pop open, throwing seeds up to 15 feet from the parent plant. About 140 seeds are produced per stem and seed may remain viable in the soil for up to eight years. Leafy spurge peak germination time is late April to early May. New seedlings develop throughout the summer but usually do not flower during the first year. Leafy spurge / NPC for the energy source
= 0.16 x 3,571 gallons
= 571 gallons

Figure 2 — yellow bract appearance

Figure 3 — true flowering

Step 1.
whp-h = acre-inches/ pumped x total head (feet) / 8.75
whp-h = ac-in x ft / 8.75
whp-h = ac-in x ft / 8.75
Figure 1 — lateral, secondary roots

Example:
Test period: entire irrigation season
System: center pivot sprinkler system with a diesel engine.
Pumping water level: 140 feet
Pressure at the discharge head: 40 psi
Acre-inches of water pumped (from water meter): 1,415
Total fuel used for test period = 3,571 gallons of diesel
Diesel fuel price: $2.20/gallon

Step 1. whp-h = acre-inches/ pumped x total head (feet) / 8.75
= 1,415 x (140 + (40 x 2.31)) / 8.75
= 1,415 x (140 + 92.4) / 8.75
= 1,415 x (232.4) / 8.75
= 37,518 whp-h

Step 2. Performance = whp-h / fuel used for the test period
= 37,518 whp-h / 3,571 gallons
= 10.5 whp-h / gallon

Step 3. Performance rating = (performance / NPC for the energy source) x 100%
= (10.5 whp-h / gallon / 12.5 whp-h / gallon of diesel) x 100%
= 84%

Step 4. Potential fuel savings = ((100% - % NPC) / 100) x fuel used for the test period
= ((100% - 84%) / 100) x 3,571 gallons of diesel
= 0.16 x 3,571 gallons
= 571 gallons

Step 5. Potential Dollar Savings = Fuel savings x Fuel price
= 571 gallons x $2.20 per gallon
= $1,256.20

Control
Chemical control recommendations listed in UNL Extension publication 2007 Guide for Weed Management (EC 07-138) include:
- 2,4-D (4L) at 3 quart per acre at flower bud stage (for suppression of seed production - annual treatments necessary).
- Grazon P+D at 2 quart per acre at flower bud stage (for suppression of seed production and gradual stand reduction over several years).
- Tordon 22R at 1-2 quart per acre (retreatment necessary for several years).
- Overdrive + Tordon at 4 ounces per acre.
- Spot treatment of seedlings and shoots emerging from deep root buds will be necessary for many years after a stand appears to be controlled. Always follow label directions.

Table 1. The Nebraska Pumping Plant Performance Criteria (NPC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENERGY SOURCE</th>
<th>ENERGY UNIT</th>
<th>ENERGY UNIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diesel</td>
<td>16.66</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gasoline</td>
<td>11.50</td>
<td>8.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propane</td>
<td>5.20</td>
<td>6.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Gas(mcf)</td>
<td>82.2</td>
<td>61.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Gas (Therm)</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>6.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>0.685</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Black spot is a common fungus found on roses during the spring and summer. Therefore, it is important to look for symptoms of black spot early and learn the proper techniques to keep it from harming plants and spreading to other plants in future years.

Black spot is spread by poor sanitation in flowerbeds. The fungus produces spores that overwinter on fallen leaves and diseased rose canes. These spores are easily transported from place to place by rain splashes in spring. When it rains, water splashes from the infected plant can carry the spores onto the foliage of new healthy leaves, carrying fungal spores with it.

Symptoms of black spot normally begin to appear in the spring when humidity levels are high and foliage dries off slowly following rain or overhead irrigation. On average, it takes only one day for spores to infect a plant and four to five days for symptoms to show. The leaves of an infected rose bush will turn brown and develop black dots. Black spot initially starts plant growth. However, if left unattended, it may eventually kill the plant.

The only effective method used to treat an infestation is to follow a regular sprayer program. Even with this treatment, however, black spot will typically return in subsequent years if environmental conditions are favorable. Therefore, it is a good idea to stop black spot before it starts.

The key to preventing black spot is to clean rose beds in the fall to get rid of any debris in which spores may overwinter and again in the spring to remove leaves that may have blown into the plants. Remove last year’s mulch and replace it with fresh mulch. Select roses that are resistant to black spot to reduce or eliminate the need for a spray program.

Remove leaves throughout the growing season as symptoms of black spot begin to appear. To be successful, fungicide applications must be made preventatively to healthy foliage. The fungicide provides a protective barrier that kills fungal spores on the leaves as they germinate and begin to grow. On high value plants with a history of black spot infestation, fungicide applications should begin as soon as foliage emerges in spring and continue throughout the summer at frequent intervals. Refer to the fungicide label for reaplication recommendations. Several fungicides can be used, including Funginex. Fungicide control will not be effective if good cultural and sanitation practices are not followed.

Recommendations:

- Remove leaves through the season as symptoms of black spot begin to appear. To be successful, fungicide applications must be made preventatively to healthy foliage.
- The fungicide provides a protective barrier that kills fungal spores on the leaves as they germinate and begin to grow.
- On high value plants with a history of black spot infestation, fungicide applications should begin as soon as foliage emerges in spring and continue throughout the summer at frequent intervals. Refer to the fungicide label for reaplication recommendations.
- Several fungicides can be used, including Funginex. Fungicide control will not be effective if good cultural and sanitation practices are not followed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
UNL Extension in Lancaster County educational resource "Bluegrass Billbugs" available at the extension office or online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/hort/factsheets/085.shtml

Plants Affected:
Primarily Kentucky Bluegrass, Zoysiagrass and Kentucky Bluegrass.

Description:
Billbugs are small, light brown, flat or oval-shaped weevils. The adult may cause some minor feeding damage to the turfgrass but the “grub” is the stage that can cause serious problems. Billbug grubs are legless and are a creamy-white color with a brown-colored head.

Eggs are laid on blades of grass through late spring and early summer. The young larvae tunnel up and down the stem until they become too large and drop to the ground where they begin to feed on crowns and roots. Maturing larvae may feed several inches deep in the soil. If billbug damage is suspected, inspect the turfgrass crowns. Infested plants are easily pulled up and separate at the crown. Infested plants may cause some minor feeding damage to the turfgrass through late spring and early summer. The young larvae tunnel up and down the stem until they become too large and drop to the ground where they begin to feed on crowns and roots. Maturing larvae may feed several inches deep in the soil. If billbug damage is suspected, inspect the turfgrass crowns. Infested plants are easily pulled up and separate at the crown.

Leaves of a rose bush infected with black spot will turn yellow and develop black dots.

Bagworm Control

Bagworm eggs hatch in early June and young worms will begin to feed on junipers, cedars and arborvitae in eastern Nebraska. Bagworms also occur on various deciduous trees such as flowering crab, plums, linden and cotonesta. The bags attached to the trees now are those left over from last year and are empty, except for the remaining egg masses that will finish hatching. The worms are very tiny, probably 3/8- inch in length or less, and each contained inside approximately a golf ball or bag which they construct of silk and plant material. At this stage, the larvae are susceptible to insecticides; however, after 6 weeks, they will be more difficult to control. Suggested material: carbaryl (Sevin), permethrin (Eight) and various formulations of “B” (Dipel, Thuricide). Follow label directions and be sure to spray trees and shrubs thoroughly to penetrate foliage. Good coverage is essential if control is to be effective.

Billbugs on Turf

Adult Bluegrass Billbug (magnified)

Plants Affected:
Primarily Kentucky Bluegrass and Kentucky Bluegrass.

Description:
Billbugs are small, light brown, flat or oval-shaped weevils. The adult may cause some minor feeding damage to the turfgrass but the “grub” is the stage that can cause serious problems. Billbug grubs are legless and are a creamy-white color with a brown-colored head.

Eggs are laid on blades of grass through late spring and early summer. The young larvae tunnel up and down the stem until they become too large and drop to the ground where they begin to feed on crowns and roots. Maturing larvae may feed several inches deep in the soil. If billbug damage is suspected, inspect the turfgrass crowns. Infested plants are easily pulled up and separate at the crown. Infested plants may cause some minor feeding damage to the turfgrass through late spring and early summer. The young larvae tunnel up and down the stem until they become too large and drop to the ground where they begin to feed on crowns and roots. Maturing larvae may feed several inches deep in the soil. If billbug damage is suspected, inspect the turfgrass crowns. Infested plants are easily pulled up and separate at the crown.

Leaves of a rose bush infected with black spot will turn yellow and develop black dots.
Chris Scow

Lancaster County 4-H is proud to announce Chris Scow as winner of May’s “Heart of 4-H Award” in recognition of outstanding volunteer service.

Seven years ago, Chris started as a parent volunteer for his daughter’s club, Boot Scootin’ 4-Hers. His wife Tracy and her sister Lisa Preston are leaders of the club. Four years ago, Chris became a member of 4-H Council and has served on the scholarship and food booth committees. As current 4-H Council president, Chris represents 4-H on the Lancaster County Extension Board. He is also active on the Horse VIPS Committee. Chris and his wife Tracy have helped extensively with the 4-H Miniature Horse Show at the Lancaster County Fair.

“I like being a 4-H volunteer because of the positive influence you can have on the lives of our youth through this program,” says Chris. “My favorite experience as a 4-H volunteer was helping and observing some of our youngest members as they work on and take pride in their projects. Then, on the other end of the spectrum, watching our seniors watch and learn!” says Chris. “My favorite experience as a 4-H volunteer was helping and observing some of our youngest members as they work on and take pride in their projects. Then, on the other end of the spectrum, watching our seniors

Congratulations to Chris. Volunteers like him are indeed outstanding volunteers in recognition of their service.

WINDSTREAM D4-H CAMP SCHOLARSHIP APPLICA TIONS DUE MAY 1

Thanks to the generosity of Windstream Communications, two Lancaster County 4-H’ers will receive full scholarships to attend a 4-H summer camp at the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Camp. The scholarship is based on need, applicants must be age 9 or older and currently enrolled in 4-H. Deadline is May 1. Applications are available at the extension office and online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h

Sheep Tagging Days, May 15–17

4-H’ers who will exhibit sheep at this year’s county fair need to have their animals tagged by June 15. Deanna Karmazin will be visiting farms May 15–17. Contact her at 441-7180 to set up a tagging time that works for your family or 4-H club.

Nominate your favorite 4-H volunteer by submitting the form online at http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h or available at the extension office.

Pre-Fair Leader Training, May 24

New leaders, experienced leaders, 4-H members and parents are invited to this leader training on Thursday, May 24, 7:30 a.m. or 7 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center. Come and receive information on how to fill out the entry tags, the new and out-of’s of judging. Life Challenge, presentations contest and other important county fair information. Preregistration by May 23 by calling 441-7180.

Animal ID’s Due June 15

All identifications for 4-H/FFA sheep, goats, swine, breeding beef, bucket calves, dairy cattle and rabbits which will be entered in the Lancaster County Fair are due to extension office by Friday, June 15. Note: animal ID forms are not available online because they are carbon copy duplicates. Pick up forms at extension office.

Horse Course Testing Party

The second e-mail horse course testing party will be held March the level IV to enter the state Western Riding. 

No minimum skills level is required to enter state in hand classes. Any questions, call Marty at 441-7180.

4-H Horse Judging Contests

There are two upcoming horse judging contests. The first will be held March, 2007.

Winning for the second time were Elizabeth Boedner in the senior division and Ellie Dearmont in the elementary division. Congratulations to both of you!
**REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 11**

### 1-Day Workshops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Workshop Name</th>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Jun 20</td>
<td>10:15-12:15</td>
<td><strong>How’d You Do That?</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>4-H Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Jun 20</td>
<td>10-10:45</td>
<td><strong>Raggedy Ann Doll</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>4-H Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Jun 20</td>
<td>12:45-2:45</td>
<td><strong>What’s in Your Checkmate?</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>4-H Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Jun 20</td>
<td>3-5PM</td>
<td><strong>Kids’ Real Science</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Extension Intern, Soni Cochran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Jun 21</td>
<td>8-10AM</td>
<td><strong>Horse of Course</strong></td>
<td>Ages 11 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>4-H Volunteer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed, Jun 21</td>
<td>10:15AM-12:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Checkmate II</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>4-H Volunteer</td>
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### 3-Day Workshop

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Workshop Name</th>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUE, JUN 20</td>
<td>10:15AM-12:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Basic Iris Paper Folding</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE, JUN 20</td>
<td>12:15PM-2:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Ragdoll Fashions</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE, JUN 20</td>
<td>10:15AM-12:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Babysitting Basics</strong></td>
<td>Ages 11 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE, JUN 20</td>
<td>3-5PM</td>
<td><strong>Babysitting Basics</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE, JUN 20</td>
<td>8-10AM</td>
<td><strong>Babysitting Basics</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, JUN 20</td>
<td>10:15AM-12:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Grocery Store Survival Skills</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, JUN 20</td>
<td>12:15PM-2:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Babysitting Basics</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, JUN 20</td>
<td>10:15AM-12:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Horse of Course</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, JUN 20</td>
<td>12:15PM-2:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Horse of Course</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, JUN 20</td>
<td>10:15AM-12:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Horse of Course</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, JUN 20</td>
<td>12:15PM-2:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Horse of Course</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, JUN 20</td>
<td>10:15AM-12:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Horse of Course</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, JUN 20</td>
<td>12:15PM-2:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Horse of Course</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
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### 2-Day Workshops

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Workshop Name</th>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue, Jun 19</td>
<td>8-10AM</td>
<td><strong>Raggedy Ann Doll</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>4-H Volunteer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue, Jun 19</td>
<td>10-10:45</td>
<td><strong>Raggedy Ann Doll</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>4-H Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue, Jun 19</td>
<td>12:45-2:45</td>
<td><strong>Raggedy Ann Doll</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>4-H Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue, Jun 19</td>
<td>3-5PM</td>
<td><strong>Raggedy Ann Doll</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>4-H Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Jun 20</td>
<td>8-10AM</td>
<td><strong>Raggedy Ann Doll</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
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<td>4-H Volunteer</td>
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<td>Wed, Jun 20</td>
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<td>Wed, Jun 20</td>
<td>3-5PM</td>
<td><strong>Raggedy Ann Doll</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>4-H Volunteer</td>
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### Classic & Antique Cars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Workshop Name</th>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun, Jun 17</td>
<td>10-12PM</td>
<td><strong>Antique &amp; Classic Cars</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>None</td>
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### Kids’ Real Science

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Workshop Name</th>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue, Jun 19</td>
<td>10:15-12:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Projects on the Prairie</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue, Jun 19</td>
<td>12:15PM-2:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Projects on the Prairie</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Jun 20</td>
<td>12:15PM-2:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Sunprint Photograms</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Other Workshops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Workshop Name</th>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Jun 20</td>
<td>10:15AM-12:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Create a wall hanging, book covers and fabric into a colorful design.</strong></td>
<td>Ages 8 &amp; up</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, Jun 20</td>
<td>12:15PM-2:15PM</td>
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<td>$5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Note

Youth may attend as many workshops as they wish. Youth attending workshops that overlap the lunch period should bring their own lunch (unless otherwise stated in the workshop description). If you have questions, contact Tracy Kulm at 471-7410.
Lincoln’s Community CROPS Program is Expanding

Ingrid Kirst
Community CROPS Director

Community CROPS: Combining Resources, Opportunities and People for Sustainability is your local community garden and farm training organization. Through a network of gardens and a farm training site, we make it possible for families to grow food for themselves and market.

This year we will have at least 10 community garden locations across Lincoln with over 100 gardening families growing a diversity of food for themselves. Gardeners from all over the world take the land and seeds we provide and put in the work to grow tomatoes, beans, okra, cucumbers and many more varieties of vegetables. It helps them eat better, get more exercise and have fun as a whole family.

In our farming program, we have new farmers from Iraq and Mexico growing vegetables for market. They will be selling their produce Sundays at the Old Cheney Farmers’ Market and through the CROPS Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Project, which provides a weekly box of vegetables to subscribing families.

We are working on some new projects this year, including an increased emphasis on youth gardening through our Urban Youth Agricultural Initiative in which we partner with existing youth organizations to help young people learn about growing and eating fresh vegetables. We are also involved in a USDA Community Food Project with Lincoln Parks and Recreation, Open Harvest and UNL Extension that will involve even more kids in gardening.

On Sunday, May 6, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Community CROPS is having a plant sale fund-raiser. We will be at the new West Gate Bank at 49th and O Streets with a variety of perennials, heirloom vegetables, flowers, house plants and more. This is a great way to get many great plants at low prices, while supporting the project at the same time. We’ll also be collecting donated tools for the gardens, so bring in a tool for a free plant.

For more information about these and other CROPS projects, go to www.communitycrops.org or call 474-9802.

The Nebraska LEAD Program
(LEADERSHIP EDUCATION/ACTION DEVELOPMENT)

Applications are now being accepted for Nebraska LEAD Group XXVII, which begins in the fall of 2007. Thirty highly motivated individuals with demonstrated leadership potential will be selected. Application deadline is June 15.

The Nebraska LEAD Program is specifically designed for both males and females involved in production agriculture or agribusiness, in the general range of 25-50, who are intent on making a difference by providing quality leadership for the future of the industry of agriculture and the state of Nebraska.

For application or re-application materials and/or further information, call the Nebraska LEAD Program at 472-6810 or e-mail ablezek1@unl.edu

On the Web at www.lead.unl.edu

Your 4-H Talent Can Lead to an Exciting Career!

Teacher
Nutrition Scientist
Corporate Chef

The College of Education and Human Sciences offers 56 degree programs which can lead you to an exciting career!

For more information, call (800) 742-8800, ext. 0695 or go to http://cehs.unl.edu

The 4-H Horse Program continued from page 1

4-H Horse Program

A Horse Knowledge Club was started two years ago to develop well-rounded horsemen and to get more youth involved in the academic areas of the 4-H Horse Program such as quiz bowl and judging. This year it was replaced by an e-mail Horse Course.

Youth Development

Youth Development
Ultimately, the goal of the 4-H Horse Program is to develop confident, competent, caring individuals who are connected to their communities.

Kim Bowen, leader of the Silver Spurs 4-H club says, “I enjoy watching the kids become better equestrians and more confident in themselves on and off the horse.”

Joyce and Jim Agena, members of Horse VIPS, say, “A great thing for us has been seeing the kids all working toward a greater goal and watching each other along the way. Watching an elementary rider being schooled by an older 4-H’er, then years later, watching that same rider help one of the new elementary riders is a great thing!”

Fun and Friends

Often youth learn best when they don’t even realize they are learning.

“4-H is fun times, hard work, lots of laughing, sweating at the Event Center, lots of detailed rules and time with my horse,” says Anna Denell (age 16).

Her mother, Martha says, “4-H helps us all realize the value and special. It has been a big factor in the character development of my kids.”

On the Web at www.lead.unl.edu
April
22 4-H Teen Council Meeting ........................................ 3 p.m.
24 4-H Horse Level Testing, Lancaster Event Center Warm-up Arena ........................................ 6:30 p.m.

May
1 FCE Scholarship Applications Due to Extension
2 Windstream 4-H Camp Scholarship Applications Due to Extension
3 4-H Council Meeting ........................................ 7 p.m.
4 4-H Horse Elementary Dressage Clinic, Lancaster Event Center Warm-up Arena ........................................ 6:6 p.m. & 7 p.m.
8 4-H Horse Skills Level Testing, Lancaster Event Center Warm-up Arena ........................................ 6:30 p.m.
8 Live Animal Training Session, Lancaster Event Center ........................................ 6–9 p.m.
10 2008 4-H CWF Meeting ........................................ 7 p.m.
11 Extension Board Meeting ........................................ 8 a.m.
11 County Deadline for 4-H District/State Horse Show Entries, 1.D/s, Level Tests
15 Guardianship Training ........................................ 5:30–8:30 p.m.
15–17 4-H Sheep Tagging Days
17 “Everything Homeowners Need to Know about Termites and Termite Control” Workshop ........................................ 6:30–9:30 p.m.
24 4-H Leader Training ........................................ 9:30 a.m. & 7 p.m.

Nathan Smith Named to State 4-H Youth Curriculum Committee
Lancaster County 4-H member Nathan Smith, son of Myron and Barb, was one of 13 Nebraska 4-H youth selected to participate in a statewide 4-H Youth Curriculum Committee. The committee consists of youth ages 14 and older and will give youth a voice in 4-H curriculum decisions such as selecting new project manuals, revising outdated materials, reviewing technology components and promoting new curriculum in counties. Additional information is at http://4h.unl.edu. Nathan is a member of Lancaster County 4-H Council, Teen Council, the Creative Clovers 4-H club and Classic Cars 4-H club.

ABC’s for Good Health Classes in June
UNL Extension Nutrition Education Program (NEP) is presenting “ABC’s for Good Health,” a three-part series aimed at limited income women. If you are receiving assistance such as food stamps or Medicaid, you would qualify to attend this program at no cost.
Upcoming classes are Wednesdays, June 6, 13 & 27. Choose between two time slots, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. or 6–8:30 p.m.
Learn that good health is as easy as:
A) Aim for fitness — Increase your physical activity with a personalized walking program.
B) Build a healthy base — Use MyPyramid to guide your food choices.
C) Choose sensibly — Balance the foods you need and enjoy:
Participants receive:
• A pedometer and inspiration to stay fit
• A notebook with practical nutrition information
• New recipes and food preparation ideas
• A cookbook (valued at $15) after completing the series
Sessions are held at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road in Lincoln. Please register by May 30. Call NEP at 441-7180 for more information or to register.

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Lorene Bartos
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444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A  Lincoln, NE 68528-1507
Fifth Graders Learn About Water, Air and Land and Living Resources at earth wellness festival

Nearly 3,000 Lancaster County fifth graders attended earth wellness festival on March 21 and 22. Students discovered and explored the relationships and interdependency of land, water, air and living resources through hands-on activities. This year, the festival expanded from one to two days. Now in its 13th year, the festival is organized by 10 local agencies, including University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County. Classrooms attending the festival received pre-festival learning kits in October.

“Students and teachers look forward to this annual event,” said Lois Mayo, member of the ewf steering committee and Lincoln Public Schools Science Curriculum Specialist.

Ag Awareness Festival Teaches 4th Graders About Agriculture

More than 400 fourth graders from Lincoln area schools attended the Ag Awareness Festival held on March 27 and 28 at the Lancaster Event Center. Students gained a greater understanding of agriculture and how it impacts their daily lives. Students rotated between 10 interactive stations: Farming Technology, Grain Products, Grain By-Products, Swine, Horse, Dairy Production, Dairy Calves, Ruminant Nutrition, Beef Products, Beef Production and Hay & Forages.

“We want youth to understand the food process—that food doesn’t originate from a restaurant or grocery store,” said Festival organizer Deanna Karmazin.

The Ag Awareness Coalition, led by University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension, organizes the festival with the help of agriculture businesses, commodity associations and food industry companies.

One American farmer/rancher produces enough food for 129 people – 95 in the U.S. and 34 abroad.