

By: Tom Mills
County Extension Agent
for Agriculture
Cattle farmers need to
be aware of Grass Tetan
during early grazing

Grass tetany is a result of a magnesium deficiency in the cow. Weather and soil fertility seem to be factors. Grass tetany occurs when soil temperature is between 40-60 degrees and often during changeable weather. High levels of nitrogen, potassium and moisture in the soil increase the incidence, because they apparently decrease the level of magnesium found in plants naturally.

This can be done with commercial mineral mixes containing magnesium or with home made mixtures. Mixing 1 part magnesium oxide, 1 part trace mineral salt and 1 part distillers dried grain will do fine if it is the cattle's only source of salt.

For more information on grass tetany, call Tom Mills at the Extension Service at 256-2403.

More than 3,000 volunteers help direct campers. Each camp is also staffed with emergency medical technicians, certified life guards and instructors for nature and recreation. 4H Camp also provides young people with a chance to learn lifetime hobbies. Some will learn to swim, paddle a canoe or square dance. Crafts, nature study, fishing, archery and shooting sports are also

Rockcastle is just beginning the sign-up process. If you haven't signed up yet, there are still camp openings. Openings are on a first come, first served basis so get your application in early. Contact the Rockcastle County Extension Office at 256-2403 for additional information on 4H Camp.

Goggles, gloves and protective gear should be kept away from unprotected family members to avoid accidental contaminant transfer. Pesticides, petroleum products and fertilizer can permeate normal clothing which may allow indirect exposure

Crop Disaster Program Funds
USDA's Farm Service Agency Administrator Keith Kelly announced that approximately 260,000 American farmers hit by natural disasters will receive the final installment of the 1999 Crop Disaster Program. Over \$500 million has already been issued as advanced payments; the balance of the \$1.3 billion total available for the program will be issued starting this week. Because the total of the claim filed exceeds \$1.3 billion, farmers will be paid 69.6 percent of their qualifying losses.

In response to the nation's farm crisis, the United States Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation has already issued over \$17 billion in direct payments this fiscal year for ongoing programs and for programs with emergency funding.

Since enactment of last year's appropriation bills, emergency funds already issued to farmers include: nearly \$5.5 billion in Market Loss Assistance Program payments, nearly \$200 million for the Livestock Assistance Program (LAP), and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). \$328 million issued to States for delivery of feeds to livestock producers, and more than \$50 million for peanut farmers. On March 14, 2000, the Rockcastle County FSA office issued 216 LAP payments equalling \$77,338. On March 8 and April 7, 2000, CDP payments were made to Rockcastle County producers, equalling \$44,180.

Producers should contact their local Farm Service Agency office for additional information about these and other USDA programs.

**Classified Deadline
is Noon
Tuesday**

Some distance limits do apply

The Kentucky Tobacco Settlement Trust Corporation, the state entity handling Phase II payments, is also serving as the point for the distribution of the federal funds. Corporation staff indicated that growers would probably see their payments within the next six to eight weeks. Growers

OP applications shall be submitted to the county that controls payment limitation for the producer. KCMO determined the "control" county for each producer in December 1999. Sign up has been extended until April 14th.

Small Grains
Producers growing small grains (wheat) must report their acreage by May 31, 2000. If crop acreage is not filed timely and producer applies for a Loan Deficiency Payment, then a charge of \$26.50 will be applied for a

PRP Signup
Eligible farmers whose pastures were damaged by drought in 1999 can receive payments to help them re-establish forage crops. The Pasture Recovery Program is funded at \$40 million. Established pasture is

U.S. Highway 25 South (In the Cut)
Mt. Vernon, Ky.

By: Wardell Alexander, FSA Director

#THIS IS NOT THE DRESSROOM AND ENTERTAINMENT SCREENING