

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. It is that one month of the year when we focus our attention on the serious problem of child abuse, neglect and sexual exploitation which is a major social and legal problem in our Commonwealth. During 2000, there were over 50,000 children reported to have been either abused, neglected or sexually exploited in Kentucky. This is more than an 80 percent increase from those reported in 1994.

There are many professionals in our communities working to help

prevent child abuse and the devastation it causes to families and communities. Volunteers are needed to carry forth the effort of preventing abuse, neglect and exploitation of our children. Anyone interested in joining this effort should contact one of the many local child abuse prevention organizations or call the Kentucky Multi-County Task Force on Child Abuse at 1-800-468-8920 and we'll get involved. If you know or suspect that a child is being abused or neglected, call your local social service or police agency and REPORT IT!



Farm News

By: Tom Mills
County Extension Agent
for Agriculture

Be aware of grass tetany

Adult beef cows nursing young calves while grazing grass or small grain pastures in late winter or early spring are especially susceptible to an extremely acute disorder known as grass tetany. Affected cattle can die suddenly and in fact are frequently found dead before the disorder is discovered.

Although in some seasons Kentucky farmers experience losses due to grass tetany from November to May, cows are more susceptible in the late winter and early spring, when they graze heavily on the new growth of grass and refuse other feed offered to them. Each loss is especially damaging, because it is invariably a bull, stock cow with a healthy young calf that dies.

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.

Symptoms of the disorder usually begin with nervousness and then progress to a stiff gait, staggering, convulsions, coma and death. It always requires immediate veterinary treatment.

About 2/3 of the cows treated intravenously with magnesium and calcium compounds recover. However, to prevent relapses, treated cows should be removed from the pasture. They should be fed hay and

grain plus 2 ounces of magnesium oxide daily for at least a week.

Because animals do not store up magnesium, their dietary requirements have to be supplied on a day-by-day basis. The only way to prevent grass tetany is to supplement the diet with additional magnesium. This can be done with commercial mineral mixes containing magnesium or with home made mixtures. Mixing

"Racing Reporter"

(Cont. from A-9)

ing the car from victory lane to wherever we were parked. I've got to admit that we had a pretty rainy car.

"The guys they were all proud of being in victory lane and when it was all over we were talking about everything and they were a little bit dejected. I said 'what's wrong guys?' They said that when they were pushing the car through the garage area past all the Winston Cup guys they had to stop for the guy that owns that 15 car, Bud Moore. He peered over into car and said that 'this boy must be a hell of a driver because he ain't got nothing to drive.' It kind of deflated my guy's ego."

"Martinsville has always been a favorite place for me to go. It's home and I like going there because of the hot dogs, azaleas, dogwoods, and ducks. It's like going to Richmond or Bristol. You still see some of the old faces that you used to see all the time. A lot of stuff has happened over the years."

"To me Martinsville is not mentally tough at all. It can get physically tough at Martinsville. You don't get a lot of speed up and you go in the

turns and you stop. The brakes are hot and the motor is hot and if it's a hot day, you can literally cook in those race cars. I've seen guys have as much trouble at that place physically as anywhere we've ever raced. It's very, very physically. I don't think it's that tough mentally at all. I think physically it's tough at times. If it's a cool day, Martinsville is not tough physically but it's hot it's one of the toughest we run at. Mentally, nothing to me compares to running at Talladega."

Mart is the driver of the No. 30 Midwest Transit Chevrolet.

Weekend Racing: The Winston Cup and Craftsman Truck Series' go to Martinsville Speedway this weekend. The Busch Series has the week off.

Track Facts: Distance: 526 mile oval; Banking in turns: 12 degrees; Banking on straights: 0 degrees; Length of front/backstretch: 800 feet; Grandstand capacity: 91,000. Saturday, April 7, Craftsman Truck Series Advance Auto Parts 250, 5 of 24 events; Distance: 250

laps/131.5 miles; TV: ESPN; Starting time: 2 p.m. (EST); Defending champion: Bobby Hamilton, Dodge.

Sunday, April 8, Winston Cup Virginia 500, 4 of 36 events; Distance: 500 laps/263 miles; TV: Fox; Starting time: 12:30 p.m. (EST); Defending champion: Mark Martin, Ford.

Top-10 Craftsman Truck Series after 4 of 24 events: 1. Riggs 495, 2. Burton 480, 3. Masgrave Hendrick, Sprague 472, 6. Tolson 444, 7. Cook 435, 8. Gibbs 400, 9. Crawford 397, 10. Kvapil 393.

Racing Trivia Questions: What year did Terry Labonte win his two Winston Cup championships?

Answer to Last Week's Question: Kurt Busch, driver of the No. 97 Roush Ford drive in the Craftsman Truck Series last season.

Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter is a syndicated NASCAR columnist. If you have a racing question that you would like answered send it to The Racing Reporter, P.O. Box 160711, Mobile, AL, 36616, or e-mail it to: 110335.405@compuserve.com

Betty Lewis Awards Ceremony

April 5, 2001 • 6:30 p.m.

Rockcastle County Middle School

Refreshments provided by the 21st Century Community

Learning Center RCHS/RATC

KREEPS will be performing a Child Abuse Awareness Skit at the ceremony



Natural Resources and
Environmental Protection Cabinet

For further information, contact
The Kentucky Division of Forestry
Frankfort, KY 40601 • 502.564.4496

Proclamation of the County of Rockcastle

Whereas Rockcastle County is blessed with diverse forests; and

Whereas Trees are a renewable and valuable natural resource; and

Whereas Trees help provide clean air and water, wildlife habitat, and natural beauty; and

Whereas Trees in our communities moderate temperature, increase property values, and are a source of community pride; and

Whereas Trees and forests are environmentally, economically, and socially important to the County of Rockcastle and the Commonwealth;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BUZZ CARLOTTIS, County Judge-Executive of the County of Rockcastle, do hereby proclaim April 6, 2001, as

ARBOR DAY

in Rockcastle County, and I urge all citizens to participate in the observance of this day by planting trees to beautify our County and to focus their attention on this great natural resource.

So Proclaimed on this, the TWENTY-SECOND Day of MARCH, 2001.

Buzz Carlottis, County Judge-Executive

Subscribe to the Signal (606)256-2244

Don't Forget!! Time is Running Out!



The deadline to have completed your Agriculture Water Quality Plan is **October 23, 2001.**

- Do you own or farm ten or more acres of land?
- Have you developed an agriculture water quality plan for this land?
- Do you need help developing your plan?
- Do you have any questions about the Agriculture Water Quality Act?

For Additional Information, Contact:

Name: USDA-NRCS-Rockcastle Co. Conservation District
Address: RR4, Box 374A, Hwy. 150, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456
Phone: 606-256-2525 Ext. 3

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Remember:

One female dog and her offspring can produce 67,000 pups in just six years

One female cat and her offspring can produce 420,000 kittens in just seven years

Have your pets spayed

Blue Ribbon Day April 5, 2001

Blue Ribbon Day started in Virginia when a Grandmother lost her Grandson to child abuse.

From that one Grandmother's efforts Blue Ribbon Day has turned into a National Campaign and each year in Kentucky more than 300,000 blue ribbons are distributed.

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