Upson/Lamar Farmer

January 2019

Special points of interest:

- Protecting Plants
 From Frost
- Popular Cuts of Meat in the Winter Months
- Upcoming Programs

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University of Georgia

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Protecting Plants From Frost

With the temperatures dropping, our ornamental plants are in need of some TLC. Some plants love these cooler days, but others can really take a beating when it comes to frost.

About this time of year at my mom's house, we would start moving. I don't mean packing up and moving to a new house on a different street, I mean moving her potted plants! Every day she will check the weather forecast to see how low the temperature will drop. If the weatherman says it might freeze, it's time to grab the wagon. All of us will load it up with the numerous potted plants she has sitting outside on her front, back and side patios. When I say her plants I'm not talking just a handful of pots, I mean probably 20+ pots. Last year during one of our "big moves" my mom checked the projected temperatures the day before, saw that it was supposed to freeze, so in went all the plants. Come to find out the weatherman was not entirely correct with his projection, the next day ended up being perfect weather for the plants to be outside. So of course all the plants got moved right back out. What do you think happened next? The temperatures drop drastically the next night, so we moved them all over again!

Yes, it is one strategy that works to help prevent frost damage, but it may not be the most practical.

There are a few different preventative measures you can take to better the chances of survival for your favorite plants. These include plant/site selection, plant nutrition, pruning/transplanting, canopies/shade, windbreaks, and covering/heating.

Most importantly, we need to remember that plants still need water during these winter months. A sound irrigation practice is essential for a healthy and cold hardy plant. Contrary to popular belief, moist soil actually absorbs more heat which helps to maintain an elevated temperature around the plants. You can also mulch the base of plants to help retain moisture in the soil.

After a freeze you may not see damage to a plant right away. To determine if your plants have been damaged by the cold, wait several days after a freeze and remove several buds, stems and leaves (if present) from the plant. Use a sharp knife or razor blade to cut a cross section of the bud's top. If there is any discoloration in the bud, they have been damaged.



Check out this publication written by Mr. Robert Westerfield, Extension Horticulture Specialist, for some tips and tricks to preventing cold damage to your plants.

Winter Protection of Ornamental Plants

https:// secure.caes.uga.edu/ extension/publications/ files/pdf/C%20872_4.PDF



"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."

> -Theodore Roosevelt



Popular Cuts of Meat in the Winter Months

I don't know about you but now is the time when I like to pull out the crockpot and start slow-cooking some meals. It must be something about the cold season that really gets people in the mood for roasts and stews.

Everyone has probably heard of your typical beef chuck roast, beef prime rib, pork boston butt, pork picnic shoulder, etc. These are what you tend to see people cooking this time of year.

I wanted to list some other popular cuts of meat that may not be as widely heard of, or used around our area.

In the beef world there are countless cuts. Some popular slow cooking cuts include: Chuck Roast, Arm Roast, Blade Roast, Ribeye Roll, Prime Rib Roast, Tri-Tip, Coulotte, Sirloin Tip, Eye of Round Roast, Heel of Round Roast. Rump Roast. Cubed Steak, Chili Meat, Stew Meat, and Soup Bones.

In the pork world we have: Jowl, Picnic Shoulder, Boston Butt, Pork Belly, Whole Tenderloin Roast, Bone-in Whole Ham, Bone-out Whole Ham and Ground Pork.

In the lamb world we have: Lamb Shank, Leg of Lamb, Loin Rack, and Stew Meat.

You will notice I have left off all steaks, chops and other more popular cuts for warmer seasons. Meals/tastes tend to be seasonal and so do cuts of meat.

Upcoming Events

Lunch 'N Learn (LNL) January 14, 2019. The topic of this LNL will be pruning, presented by Mr. Bob Westerfield, Horticulture Specialist for the University of Georgia Extension. The program will begin at 10:30am with the presentation, then will conclude with questions, discussion, and lunch. It will be hosted at the Barnesville-Lamar Library and the cost will be \$10. Please RSVP by January 10, 2019 to the Lamar County Extension Office.

(770)358-5163

Food 4 Thought (F4T) January 15, 2019. The topic of this F4T will be Safe Pesticide Handling presented by Mr. Milton Taylor, University of Georgia. The program will begin at 6pm with the presentation and will conclude with questions, discussion, and dinner. You can

earn one hour of credit for pesticide categories 21-24, 26, 27, 41, and private. It will be hosted at the Upson County Extension Office and the cost will be \$10. Please RSVP by January 11, 2019 to the Upson County Extension Office.

(706)647-8989

Grass Masters This seven day program is being held in Monroe County. Classes will be held on the evenings of January 22, 24, 29, 31, February 5, 7, and 12. Please RSVP by January 10, 2019. If you have any questions contact the Monroe County Extension Office.

(478)994-7014

Radon Workshop January 30, 2019. This program will be hosted by both Pike and Spalding Extension Offices. It will take place from 6pm-8pm at the Spalding Office.

The program is completely free. Please contact either Pike or Spalding County Extension for more information.

(770)567-2010 or (770)467-4225

Sale Barn Beef Program February 28, 2019. At this program we will discuss how to assess live cattle and why cattle get docked in price at the sale barn. Jason Duggin, Beef specialist for the University of Georgia, and David Garcia, USDA, will be our presenters. It will take place at the L and K Livestock Market in Upson County beginning 5:30pm. The cost will be \$10 and dinner will be provided. Please RSVP by January 21, 2019 to the Upson County Extension Office.

(706)647-8989

January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 MGCA Membership (Spalding)	11	12
13	14 LNL 10:30a-12:30p (Lamar)	15 F4T 6p-8p (Upson)	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 GrassMasters (Monroe)	23	24 GrassMasters (Monroe)	25	26
27	28	29 GrassMasters (Monroe)	30 Radon Workshop (Pike)	31 GrassMasters (Monroe)		

February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 GrassMasters (Monroe)	6	7 GrassMasters (Monroe)	8	9
10	11	12 GrassMasters (Monroe)	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Beef Program 5:30p (Upson)		

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Upson/Lamar Extension University of Georgia

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What is UGA Extension?

Through county offices throughout the state, University of Georgia Cooperative Extension offers reliable information and programs in the areas of agriculture, food, families, the environment and 4-H youth development. Let us help you learn, grow and do more!

http://extension.uga.edu/county-offices/upson.html or http://extension.uga.edu/county-offices/lamar.html

An Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Veteran, Disability Institution

Any person with disability who needs an accommodation to participate should contact the county Extension office to discuss their needs in advance.

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AG Comic of the Month

