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April 2025

HELLO!

If you are a new subscriber, we welcome you! If you missed past editions, scroll down to the bottom of this newsletter for the link to access the newsletter archive page!

Just Released! - Youth Showbox Biosecurity

Resources



**Access Youth
Showbox**

We've recently added valuable biosecurity resources to our Youth Showbox. These resources are designed to help young livestock exhibitors understand and implement effective biosecurity practices to protect their animals from disease. The new additions include guidelines on disease prevention, cleaning and disinfection protocols and strategies for maintaining healthy livestock environments. By utilizing these resources, youth can ensure their animals remain healthy and safe,

contributing to successful livestock shows and overall farm operations.

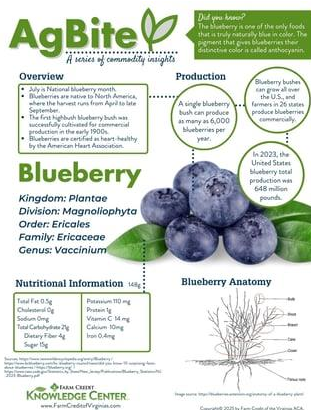
AgBundles



NEW Infographics and Activities!

We've added some cool new AgBites, AgBuds and AgBarks. You can access the new infographics, poster files and activities by visiting our AgBundles page.

Visit the AgBundles Webpage



Also available:
Jeopardy games
for the AgBite
and AgBud
series!



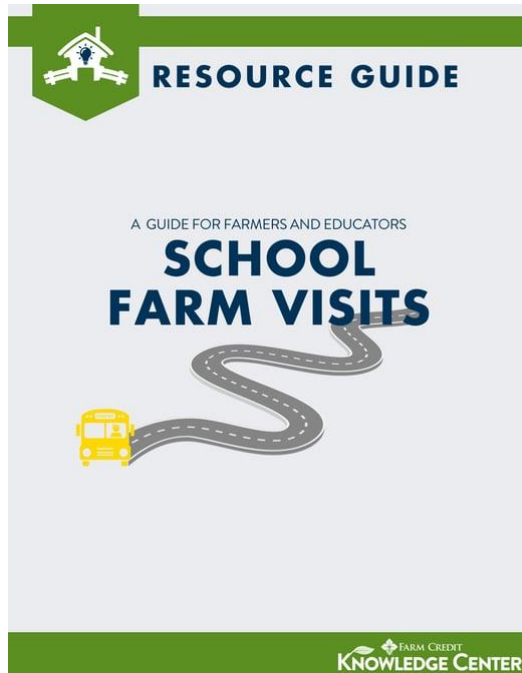
Resource Connection

School Farm Visits

The impacts and benefits of school farm visits are numerous. We want to encourage more farm visits, so we created the School Farm Visits

resource guide and Top 10 Tips for Hosting a School Group for educators and farmers. The guides are full of resources, safety considerations, tips for farmers and educators, signage links, check sheets, curriculum resources and more!

School Farm Visits Resource Guide



Top 10 Tips for Hosting a School Group

Resource Guide

**TOP 10 TIPS
FOR HOSTING A SCHOOL GROUP**

Interested in hosting school groups at your farm? Follow these top 10 tips to set yourself up for success and to ensure the health and safety of visitors.

Tip #1 **SIGNAGE**
Make sure to post eye-catching signs that are both in words and pictures. Many school-aged children may not be able to read yet, but they can understand pictures. If you are in an area with multiple languages, make sure signs are bilingual. Post several signs around your farm. Review the VA Law [HERE](#) Review the WV Law [HERE](#)

Tip #2 **DESIGNATED AREAS**
Designate areas for your visitors. Have a parking area, eating area, petting zoo area, photo area, restroom area, play area, etc. This helps with safety, biosecurity, and overall health and safety of visitors and livestock.

Tip #3 **PARKING**
Have a parking area for your visitors. A one-way system is recommended with one way in and one way out. If this isn't possible, have a walkway for visitors and children to cross safely. If this isn't an option for you, you can have someone designated for parking/directing traffic.

Tip #4 **RESTROOMS AND HANDWASHING**
Always provide restrooms and handwashing stations. If you don't have a permanent structure, portable stations are recommended. Have hand sanitizer available near livestock areas, and at restroom and handwashing stations.

Tip #5 **FARM SAFETY**
Make sure you have an emergency plan for the "what if's" and communicate with your employees or family. Before an event, notify your local fire, EMS, and police of the event. Make sure you have an entrance where they can enter your farm easily in case of an emergency. Take keys out of equipment and block off or label closed areas with signage. Lock pesticide sheds and grain bins/augers and other farm equipment. If you are having a hayride or transporting visitors, make sure wagons have sides and ramps for getting on and off safely.



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**FARM CREDIT
KNOWLEDGE CENTER**

Learn about the Spotted Lanternfly

The blog emphasizes the importance of youth record keeping in agriculture, highlighting three key benefits: gaining valuable experience, learning responsibility, and improving organization skills. By maintaining records of livestock or garden projects, young individuals can better understand financial cycles, manage responsibilities, and keep organized records for future use. These skills are not only essential for farming but also beneficial in various aspects of life, such as tax and accounting purposes.

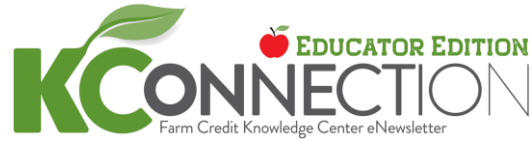


**Read Blog on Youth
Record Keeping**

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