

Bourbon Brood cicadas set to sing this spring in KY

Kentucky will be the epicenter for the emergence of Brood 14 of 17-year periodical cicadas this spring. Designated the “Bourbon Brood” by University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment entomologists, these time-keeping insects are characterized by their red eyes and loud singing.

Periodical cicadas have appeared in Western Kentucky counties over the past few years, but the largest emergence area for 2025 will occur across most of Central and Eastern Kentucky. According to Jonathan Larson, Assistant Extension Entomology Professor in the Department of Entomology at UK Martin-Gatton CAFE, the 17-year periodical cicadas emerge from the soil to molt into their



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flying, adult form in late April to early May, much earlier than annual cicadas.

“We will begin seeing this brood of cicadas when the soil warms to the mid-60s, about the same time you start to see iris blooms,” Larson said. “A lot of people hate them, but I hope they will learn to appreciate them as periodical cicadas are such a rarity.”

Larson explained that the periodical cicada nymphs live in the soil, feeding on the sap of tree roots. They count their feeding cycles to know when to emerge and prepare for molt. Not all cicadas appear in the correct year; the few that do not are referred to as stragglers.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT EMERGENCE

Cicadas are not harmful to humans, pets or wildlife, as they do not bite or sting. While some may compare cicadas to

locusts, Larson said they do not swarm and cause massive plant damage. Adult cicadas feed on sap with little impact to the plant.

Local wildlife, such as snakes, foxes and turkeys, will benefit from the extra protein provided by the cicadas. Although Larson mentioned that the surge in cicada numbers won't immediately boost the population of predatory animals in high-emergence areas, it will likely lead to increased feeding activity. He advised people to be aware.

In addition to the many nymph exoskeleton shells left behind on tree trunks and nearby objects, the adult cicadas' sound will be difficult to avoid.

“A song from a large congregation of cicadas can be deafening, rivaling the sound made by a jet engine,” Larson said. “Only the males can produce the sound, and their first song is to encourage other males

to congregate in sunlit trees. Another choral song is then made to attract females. The males will die shortly after mating, and the females will begin laying their eggs.”

PROTECTING TREES AND SHRUBS

Larson said egg laying is the part of the periodical cicada lifecycle that can be problematic for orchards, tree nurseries and landscapers.

Female cicadas will bore their ovipositor into young, tender tree or shrub branches and deposit 200-600 eggs. This “flagging” may cause the branches to snap. While not beneficial for a growing tree, a fallen branch makes for a much shorter journey for the hatching nymphs from egg to soil. A heavy population of nymphs in the soil may also impact the tree's root system.

While using insecticides may be less costly, Larson said the

safest and most effective way to prevent tree and shrub damage is by using cicada netting, which prevents females from laying their eggs.

Netting is suggested for use on new and smaller trees: oak, apple, arborvitae, ash, beech, berry and grape vines, crab apple, cherry, dogwood, hickory, holly, maple, lilacs, magnolia, peach, pear, rose bushes, spirea and willows. It should be installed when the cicadas begin to sing, about mid-May for most of the area. Trees that are established in the landscape — too tall to net for most people — will grow throughout the egg-laying period.

“By using the netting, we won't be harming these wonderful examples of nature's pageantry,” said Larson.

For additional information on periodical cicadas from the UK Department of Entomology, visit <https://entomology.ca.uky.edu/ef446>.

The Martin-Gatton

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The 4 stages of parenting and how to maximize each one

Source: David Weisenhorn, Ph.D.; Specialist for Parenting and Child Development

Parenting is a journey that changes as children grow and change. Understanding the four main stages of parenting can help parents through each phase, making sure they give the right support at the right time. Each stage has its own challenges. Knowing what tack to take in each can mean better results for both parents and kids.

Infancy Stage (0-2 years). During infancy, the main focus is on meeting a child's basic needs — feeding, comfort, and safety. Research shows attachment and bonding are key, as babies count on their caregivers to feel safe in the world. Positive interactions and consistent caregiving help build a sense of trust and safety in the baby. They lay the groundwork for later stages. During this stage, parents should focus on forming a responsive caregiving style.

Early Childhood Stage (2-6 years). In this stage, children have quick cognitive, emotional, and social growth. Children start to explore their freedom. Their language skills, motor skills, and social understanding grow. Parents should give



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structure and guidance while letting your child explore their sense of wonder and curiosity. Research says it is vital to let children succeed in tasks to build confidence. Encouraging positive social interactions and giving proper challenges for their age can help children build self-esteem and start to learn how to navigate their environment.

Middle Childhood Stage (6-12 years). In middle childhood, children gain more and even more freedom and start forming their own sense of self. Their cognitive skills grow, and they start to build skills in problem-solving and logical thinking. Parents should focus on giving chances for learning and personal growth while keeping up steady support. Studies suggest that more school engagement and activities outside of school at this stage are key for fostering a sense of skill and self-worth. Parents can boost this stage by fostering good friend bonds, promoting responsibility, and encouraging exploration of their child's interests.

Adolescence Stage (12+ years). Adolescence has intense physical, emotional, and social changes. Teens strive for freedom and build more complex

thinking. Parents should use a more flexible, supportive role, guiding their teens through decision-making and helping guide them through social pressures. Research shows that teens benefit from open communication and the chance to make choices within limits. Parents should maintain trust while offering support and emphasizing the value of personal responsibility and prepping teens for adult life.

Each stage of your child's growth needs different parenting methods to make sure children develop into well-adjusted, competent adults. By understanding the unique needs of each phase, parents can give the care and support their child's needs at every step of the journey.

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projects, and noted that the lawyer had charged the county almost \$5,000. “I want you all just to look at that and see how he charges and so forth,” Lucas said. “... I had told you all about that. He even charged to read a text — a tenth of an hour. We can't waste our money like that, guys.”

According to Lucas, the lawyer hired by the county charges \$325 per hour.

- Accepted the audit for the Breckinridge County Sheriff's Office for the fiscal year ending in 2023. Lucas said there was one finding that has since been resolved.
- Approved a proclamation declaring May 1 National Day of Prayer.
- Approved the emergency management pro-

gram funding for the year.

- Accepted a bid from Mago Construction for asphalt.
- Accepted a \$532 bid for a 2003 Chrysler airport van from Buddy Critchelow.
- Approved the county's Anthem Health Insurance renewal rates for county employees.

- Voted to hire three seasonal road department employees.
- Entered into executive session regarding pending litigation. Upon returning to regular session, no action was taken.
- Voted to auction off the county's paver/roller with no reserve.

UPI-Market Report
April 21, 2025

Receipts: 473 Last Reported: 1,402 Year Ago: 935

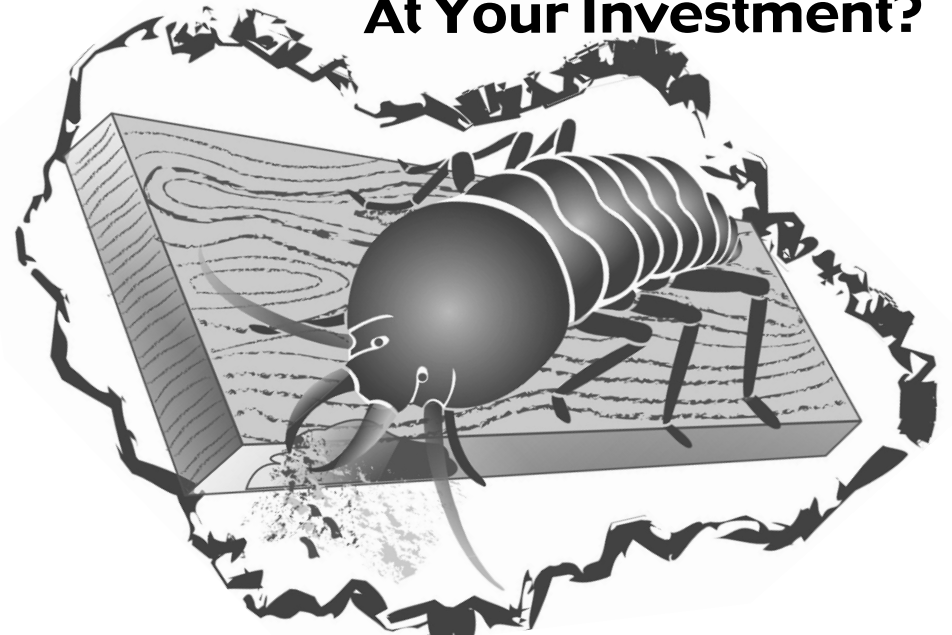
Compared to last week; Feeder steers and feeder heifers sold steady to firm. Strong demand for all classes of feeders. Slaughter cows sold 3.00 to 4.00 higher and slaughter bulls sold steady. Strong demand for slaughter cattle. Supply included: 75% Feeder Cattle (39% Steers, 2% Dairy Steers, 35% Heifers, 25% Bulls); 2% Slaughter Cattle (91% Cows, 9% Bulls); 23% Replacement Cattle (67% Stock Cows, 33% Bred Cows). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 26%. STEERS - Med. & Lrg. 1-2: 242 to 385 lbs. \$420 - \$465. 430 to 498 lbs. \$335 - \$450. 500 to 576 lbs. \$317 - \$378. 608 to 697 lbs. \$312 - \$349. 702 to 712 lbs. \$299-\$302. HEIFERS -Med. & Lrg. 1-2: 200 to 260 lbs. \$360 - \$380. 302 to 338 lbs. \$335-\$367. 405 to 490 lbs. \$325 - \$360. 508 to 568 lbs. \$315 - \$325. 610 to 678 lbs. \$255 -\$285. 720 to 780 lbs. \$252 - \$274. 902 lbs. \$248. COWS - Breaker 75-80% 1675 to 1745 lbs. \$155-\$157. 1515 to 1650 lbs. \$158 - \$159.

United Producers, Inc.

This report reflects the majority of the cattle sold with a USDA grade, weight, & sex. This report does not reflect all animals sold on the above date.


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