



“Anything worth doing is worth doing well.”

Forage-Livestock Quotes & Concepts

MONTHLY TIP

Tennessee State Fair Competition (State Hay Contest) is receiving hay samples up to August 11. This year 16 different hay categories are available, including square and round bales from grasses, legumes, and grass-legumes mixes.

For the Southeastern Hay Contest (<https://site.caes.uga.edu/sehaycontest/>) entries must be postmarked by August 30th, 2024. This contest is open to any hay or baleage producers from Tennessee and States located east of I-35. In this case, 9 different categories are accepted.

Proving your hay is the best can help you sell it more effectively. Your local Extension Agent can assist you with the process. Let's showcase that Tennessee has the best hay ever!

*Dr. Bruno Pedreira
UT Extension Forage Specialist*



UTBEEF.COM

NITRATES TOXICITY IN FORAGES

Dr. Bruno Pedreira, UT Extension Forage Specialist

In recent weeks, I have received several calls about nitrates in forages. Nitrate accumulation is especially likely during the summer when soil moisture is low, as has been the case recently in Tennessee. This buildup happens because plants continue to absorb nitrogen, but insufficient water limits their growth. Consequently, nitrates stay stored in the plants, waiting to be used for protein synthesis when water becomes more available. To determine the presence of nitrates in forages, county extension offices now offer a nitrate screening solution. To conduct the test, collect 10 to 15 stalks from various parts of the field or from the forage intended for feeding. Cut the stalks open lengthwise and apply 2-3 drops of the solution to the nodes. If the solution turns dark blue, nitrates are present, and it is recommended to perform a lab nitrate test to determine the exact concentration. Since the nitrate level in hay will not decrease during storage, it is important to have the hay analyzed prior to feeding.

NEW EQUINE NUTRITION SHORT COURSE BEGINS IN SEPTEMBER

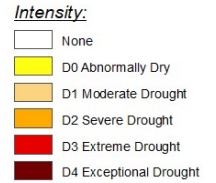
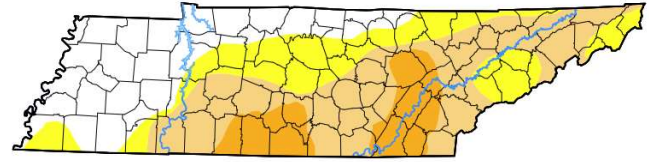
Dr. Jennie Ivey, Associate Professor and Equine Extension Specialist

The University of Tennessee Equine Program is excited to announce a new educational program – the Equine Nutrition Short Course (ENSC)! The ENSC will be 9 weeks long, running from September 3 – October 29, 2024. Each week, live webinars will be hosted on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 PM ET covering a variety of equine nutrition topics. Participants will also be added to an online classroom that will contain webinar information and recordings, a question/answer platform, topic-specific resources, and interactive case studies. “The ENSC brings science based, unbiased nutrition information to the equine owners, industry professionals, and enthusiasts. The contest is accessible and is applicable to any breed, age, experience level, or riding discipline,” says Dr. Jennie Ivey. “We are excited to launch this long-anticipated program nationally recognized speakers, content, and interactive components to empower participants to make informed equine nutrition decisions,” adds Dr. Ivey. Cost for participants is \$165 until August 13, 2024, and will increase to \$200 from August 14-September 10, 2024. Registration cost includes access to 9 webinars and the online classroom, a forage test, incentives, and a certificate. The ENSC is open to individuals ages 15 and over. Group pricing is available and can be arranged through direct email to Dr. Ivey at jzivey@utk.edu. For more information and to register, visit tiny.utk.edu/EquineNutritionShortCourse.

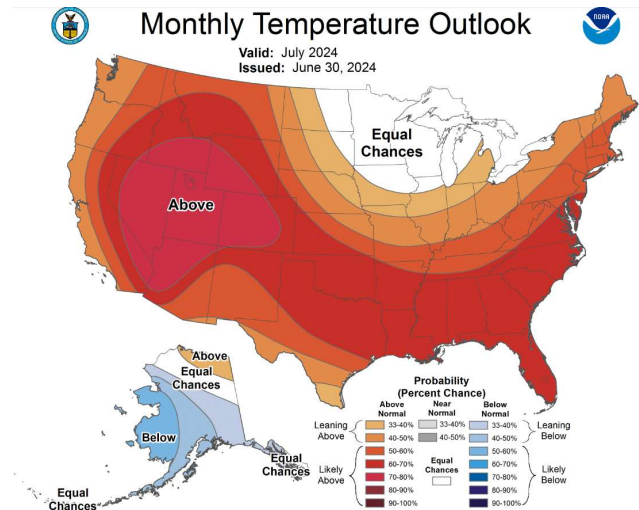
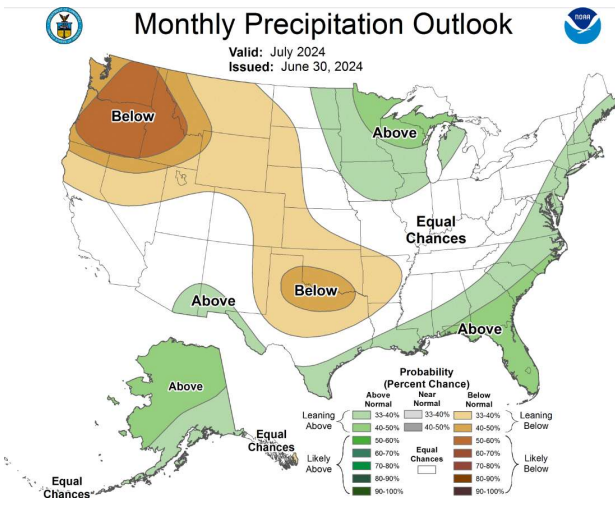
WEATHER

Dr. Bruno Pedreira, UT Extension Forage Specialist

June was a month with lower average temperature and precipitation for the state of Tennessee. On average, -0.96°F and -2.01” departing from the last 10-y average, which is 74.6°F and 4.5”, respectively. ncei.noaa.gov



For July, temperatures are expected to be hot and above the average in TN. Precipitation should on average, with equal chances of precipitation. The drought monitor is showing low soil moisture in TN except for the West region. Several counties in East and Middle TN are already in Severe Drought (D2). droughtmonitor.unl.edu



- UPCOMING EVENTS- Visit UTBEEF.COM for more information**
- **Live.Stock** - Join us for our live stream August 14, 2024 at 2 pm ET
 - **Tri-State Beef Conference**- August 1, 2024 in Blountville, TN
 - **Steak and Potatoes Field Day**- August 22, 2024 in Crossville, TN



Photo of the Month by Malerie Fancher – Jonah Hillard, The UT Beef and Forage Center Summer Intern, assisting with a variety trial harvest.

This and other useful information can be found at your local UT Extension office, or on our website.

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