



Be on the Lookout for Blacklegged Ticks!

The blacklegged tick (*Ixodes scapularis*), also called the deer tick, is the main vector of Lyme disease (LD) in the northeastern US. While Lyme disease is established in the northeast, few cases have been reported in southern states and LD is not considered to be endemic here. However, it is important to be aware of possible increases in populations of this tick and to report findings in Kentucky. The blacklegged tick has been found at several locations in eastern Kentucky (Clay, Jackson, Knox, and McCreary counties) over the past few years, and most recently in Lee Co. All the found ticks have been adults, which are active

from November through April.

Given the potential public health impact of the blacklegged tick, it is important to be alert for it. Do not hesitate to send any ticks in for identification. Specimens representing new county records will be forwarded to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, IA so the information can be entered in their database. For more information contact Lee Townsend, UK Extension Entomologist, at 859.257.7455 or via e-mail Lee.Townsend@uky.edu



Photo courtesy: Scott Bauer; USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bugwood.org

Biomass BMPs Released

The Kentucky Division of Forestry (KDF) recently released recommendations for harvesting forest biomass as an alternative energy source. The document, entitled "Recommendations for the Harvesting of Woody Biomass," is available at <http://forestry.ky.gov/Pages/WoodEnergyTopics.aspx>.

Woody biomass consists of trees, branches, and other vegetation that can be used as a source of heat or power for the generation of electricity. Technology is also being developed that would allow wood to be converted into ethanol that could be used as a replacement for gasoline in motor vehicles.

Woody biomass has sparked interest from policymakers, forest industry representatives, energy analysts, and others who are looking for new sources of energy. The division's recommendations will help balance the emerging biomass industry with the need to protect our forests and ensure sustainability. KDF recommends that interested landowners seek professional forestry assistance from a qualified

natural resource professional before beginning any timber harvest. In addition, pre-harvest planning should include a written contract between the landowner and the logger to include all expectations and requirements of both parties.



Photo courtesy: Jeff Stringer

The recommendations were developed with assistance from key partners including the Kentucky Department for Fish and Wildlife Resources, Kentucky Division of Water, Kentucky Department of Conservation, Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission, University of Kentucky Department of Forestry, U.S. Forest Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Upcoming Dates To Remember:

Date:	Event:	Location:	Contact:
March 9, 2012	NTPF Workshop	Quicksand, KY	606.666.2438 ext. 285
March 15, 2012	Lee Co. Forestry Program	Lee Co. Extension Office	606.464.8759
March 24, 2012	Ohio River Valley Woodlands and Wildlife Workshop	Kings Island Conference Center, Cincinnati, OH	502.495.5000
March 27, 2012	One Acre and a Time: Woodland Owner Seminar	John W. Black Community Center, Oldham County	859.257.7597
April 10 - 11, 2012	KWOA Annual Meeting	Pennyrile, KY	kwoa.net
March 28 - 30, 2012	2012 Kentucky Forest Industries Association Annual Meeting	Louisville, KY at the Seelbach Hilton	www.kfia.org 502.695.3979

For more information about these programs, visit www.ukforestry.org

NEWS TO USE

KDF Celebrates 100-Year Anniversary: Governor Beshear Proclaims 2012 as the Year of Kentucky's Forests



Photo courtesy: KDF

Fire towers were once strategically placed across Kentucky and were the primary method of detecting wildland fires. Today, small airplanes are used to detect fire during wildland fire hazard seasons allowing fewer KDF employees to scan significantly larger areas than the fire towers covered.

The Kentucky Division of Forestry (KDF) is celebrating its 100th Anniversary. To help commemorate KDF's Centennial and to acknowledge its employees, past and present, Gov. Steve Beshear signed a proclamation declaring 2012 year as The Year of Kentucky's Forests. KDF, originally known as the Board of Forestry, was established in 1912 by the Kentucky General Assembly to protect forest resources from being destroyed by wildfire and depleted from over-harvesting. Although KDF has changed considerably over the years, the initial priorities have remained the same: protecting forests from wildfire, assisting landowners with forest stewardship and producing tree seedlings for reforestation projects. "This is a significant milestone for our agency and for forest conservation in our state," said Leah MacSwords, director of KDF. "A century of hard work and dedication by the division employees has helped sustain our forest resources

for a multitude of benefits including scenic beauty, clean air and water, wildlife habitat and an economically-important forest industry." KDF's yearlong celebration of its centennial will include a salutation during the State Arbor Day Ceremony, informational displays at the capitol, participation in fairs and festivals across the Commonwealth and historical presentations to various groups throughout the year. The next issue of Kentucky Woodlands Magazine will feature an article on the Kentucky Forestry Centennial. For more information and to learn more about the division's past, present and future, please visit <http://forestry.ky.gov>



KY Prescribed Fire Council

The mission of the Kentucky Prescribed Fire Council is to promote the understanding and enhance collaboration for the use of ecologically based prescribed fire in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The council is concerned about the safe and beneficial use of prescribed fire as a land management tool. This fall the Kentucky Prescribed Fire Council will be conducting a workshop for landowners interested in learning more about utilizing controlled burns as a habitat management tool on their properties. This workshop is being planned for late-August or early-September 2012. Check out the Kentucky Prescribed Fire Council website to learn more at www.ca.uky.edu/forestry/fire/.



Test Your Knowledge Answers from KWM Vol. 6 Issue 2

1. c) **Congratulations to C. Keller of Bullitt Co. He was randomly chosen from the entries with the correct responses from the last quiz. Thank you Kentucky Woodland Owners Association for donating \$50 gift certificates for**
2. d)
3. b)
4. a)
5. a) **Test Your Knowledge for the 2011 issues!**

Visit www.ukforestry.org to submit your answers to this issues quiz for a chance to win a \$50 gift certificate to Forestry Suppliers. The answers to this issue's questions will be provided in the next issue of the magazine.