

February 4th, 2024

Matthew Deist – ANR Agent

931.967.2741 or [mdeist@utk.edu](mailto:mdeist@utk.edu)



## 2024 Production Budgets

From Field Crops to Fruit & Vegetables, UT has budgets to help plan for likely expenses and potential profits in the upcoming production year. To improve the accuracy, users are encouraged to use inputs, prices and processes from their operations in budget calculations. This can be done by downloading and utilizing the Excel version of the budget. To access these budgets, click the link below:

<https://tiny.utk.edu/budgets>



## Soybean & Cotton Sentinel Plot Sign-up

There's a difference between variety tests and sentinel plots. Admittedly, variety tests, although extremely useful in testing new varieties (some not commercially available) on a local level, do require additional work/time at planting and again at harvest. Sentinel plots on the other hand, are nothing but a benefit. The process is simple. We flag off roughly 1 acre of your crop (typically a corner that's already a pain to get to) and ask you not to spray it with insecticide or fungicide during the growing season. On a weekly basis, I will scout that plot, send leaf and insect samples to our specialists in West TN, and monitor crop progress. This is all free of charge, but there are only 4 spots available. If you're interested, call or email me at the info listed above.



## Agricultural Pesticide Waste Collection

In 1998, the Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA), in cooperation with the UT Agricultural Extension Service and others, initiated the Tennessee Agricultural Pesticide Waste Collection Program as part of Tennessee's State Mgmt. Plan for Protection of Groundwater from Pesticides. This program facilitates the safe removal and disposal of unwanted pesticides. This service is offered free to the agricultural community.

If you would like to dispose of pesticides, the TDA will pick up your unusable products and facilitate safe disposal. If you have a small amount of product, a TDA employee will pick it up at your farm. If it is a large amount, arrangements can be made to have it removed directly by the contractor.

This is a non-regulatory program. Any pesticides will be removed with no questions asked. Of note, empty pesticide containers will not be collected. For more info on this program, click the link below:

<https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/pesticides/ag-businesses-pesticide-collection.html>

## Extension Publications - Timely & Relevant -

UT Publication Database: <https://tiny.utk.edu/pubs>

[2024 Lawn Maintenance Calendar](#)

[2024 TN Home Fruit and Vegetable Garden Calendar](#)

[2024 Weed Control Manual for TN](#)

[2024 Insect Control Recommendation for Field Crops](#)

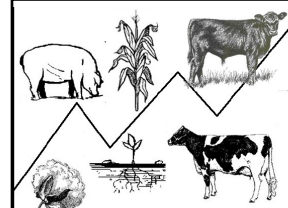
## Tennessee Market Highlights

**UT EXTENSION**  
 INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE  
 THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

February 2, 2024  
 Number: 5

Click below & select February 2nd

<https://tiny.utk.edu/MarketHighlights>



Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development.  
 University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating.  
 UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.