

## JEFFERSON COUNTY URBAN AG NEWSLETTER

### FEATURED URBAN FARMER

*Jody Dahmer*



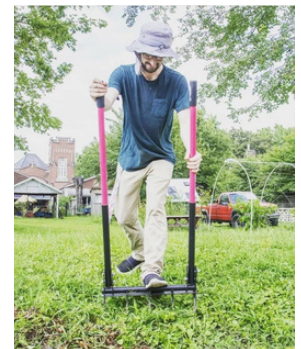
My name is Jody Dahmer (he/they). Beargrass Thunder is a licensed seed seller and native plant nursery run by Mariah Corso and I in the Smoketown neighborhood of Louisville, Kentucky. The business started in 2018 as a nature podcast on YouTube. Since then, we offer consultations and installations on residential properties to convert mowed grass into either a food or native flower YARDENS for pollinators. On a typical day I am creating custom native wildflowers seed mixes and doing consultations/installs for clients.

One of the things that makes me unique in the urban ag space is our focus on native plants and educational outreach to public officials. We are committed to helping neighborhoods and cities remove restrictive ordinances and rules to increase food accessibility and eliminate fines for urban farmers growing in urban spaces. With a partnership from Louisville Grows, we created the Louisville Seedbank, currently hosted at the Louisville Tool Library.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



This allows for free seeds for anyone in the city to get started gardening at the lowest cost possible. This season I hope to collaborate with more research institutions and community partners to help scale the work we do with both the Louisville Seedbank and advocacy work removing farming restrictions in mandatory mowed areas of the county. One thing I enjoy about the urban ag community in Louisville is there is something for everyone, everywhere. By joining their efforts, it scales this power exponentially to end food apartheid in Louisville. If I were a brand new backyard farmer getting ready to start my YARDEN, I would do my research by testing soil for lead and looking at available sunlight per day, especially on the fence line.





**MESSAGE BOARD**

**REGISTER NOW!**

**SAVE THE DATE**

2023 KENTUCKY BLACK FARMERS CONFERENCE

**MARCH 3-4 2023**

KNICELY CONFERENCE CENTER  
(WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY)  
BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY

BLACK SOIL™  
BUILD BETTER NATURE

**RIVERSIDE**  
THE FARNSLEY-MOREMEN LANDING

Riverside Farmers Market is now accepting vendors applications  
[CLICK HERE](#)

**HIRING**  
*Looking for Teachers and a Director*

**Looking for Teachers and a Director**

**magnolia blossom**  
montessori school  
A Wildflower School



**REGISTER NOW!**

*Introduction TO HOMESTEADING AND SUBSISTENCE AGRICULTURE*

March 31 - April 1

Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm  
1525 Mills Lane  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Common Earth Gardens' Conservation Workshop Series  
Presents:

**Intercropping**

The process of growing two or more crops at the same time within the same space.

Saturday, March 4th 10AM-12PM 7th St. Community Garden 3221 S 7th St. 40216	Saturday, March 11th 10AM-12PM Southside Community Garden 7315 Southside Dr. 40214 (Located behind Antioch Church)
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Want to Learn More? Questions?  
Contact Amelia Baylon  
abaylon@archlou.org

*Ribbon Cutting Ceremony*  
for the  
**WEST LOUISVILLE**  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE

**FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2023**  
11 A.M.

West Louisville Central Community Center  
1300 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd., Louisville, KY

A reception will follow the ceremony.

RSVP:  
ENGAGEMENT@KYSU.EDU



**MARCH UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 4

9am - 12pm

Winter Orchard Brigade  
[SIGN UP HERE](#)  
Opportunity Corner  
636 S. 18th St.  
Louisville, KY 40203
- 7

8am - 5pm

PSA - FSMA Grower Training Course  
Jefferson County Ext. Office  
4200 Gardiner View Ave.  
Louisville, KY 40213  
[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS](#)
- 11

10am - 12pm

Common Earth Gardens  
Intercropping Workshop  
Southside Community Garden  
7315 Southside Dr.  
Louisville, KY 40214
- 22

6pm - 8pm

Seed Swap Workshop  
Louisville Tool Library  
1227 Logan Street  
Louisville, KY 40204
- 31

10am - 4pm

Homesteader/ Subsistence Ag  
March 31 - April 1, 2023  
Harold R. Benson Research & Demo Farm  
[Registration is FREE](#)



**THIRD THURSDAY THING**

Every third Thursday of the month,  
January through November, at 10 a.m. ET

**January 19:** USDA Farm and Home Loans | Natural Resource Management  
**February 16:** Organic Agriculture  
**March 16:** Small Ruminants  
**April 20:** Pest Control | NRCS Programs  
**May 18:** Aquaculture  
**June 15:** Farmers Markets | Juneteenth Celebration  
**July 20:** Fencing | Pastured Poultry  
**August 17:** Sustainable and Organic Agriculture  
**September 21:** Pawpaw  
**October 19:** Small Ruminants  
**November 16:** Small Farms Conference

Join us in person at the Harold R. Benson  
Research and Demonstration Farm or online  
at [YouTube.com/kysuag/live](https://www.youtube.com/kysuag/live)



KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY  
Cooperative Extension Program

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Here is a list of videos that inspired my urban ag walk this month. Hope you enjoy.

**TOP THREE DID YOU SEE!**

- [How to Raise Backyard Chickens](#)
- [Why Are Meat Goats Profitable?](#)
- [How to Design a Perennial Flower Garden](#)

Do you have questions about your garden? Ask extension! Success stories will be coming soon. Thanks for reading and supporting.

**CONTACT ME:**  
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*Von Barnes*

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Follow us on social media @kysuag

