

### Wetter Start to June, Shifting Temperature Patterns

The NOAA's Climate Prediction Center has forecasted an above average chance for wetter conditions across the Commonwealth for the first weeks of June as moisture moves across the continental US.

This picture becomes less clear in the second half of June, with predictions calling for equal chances of wetter and drier than average conditions, in general.

For temperature, cooler than average conditions are likely to be present in the northern Midwest, affecting the northern and western parts of Kentucky at first, but eventually pushing into the Ohio River Valley more broadly in the second week of June. In the latter half of June, the predictions show a high likelihood of warmer than average conditions in Kentucky.

See **UKAg Weather's Long Range Outlooks** for a variety of forecasts of temperature and precipitation probabilities.



College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
Cooperative Extension Service

## NURSERY CROPS EXTENSION & RESEARCH

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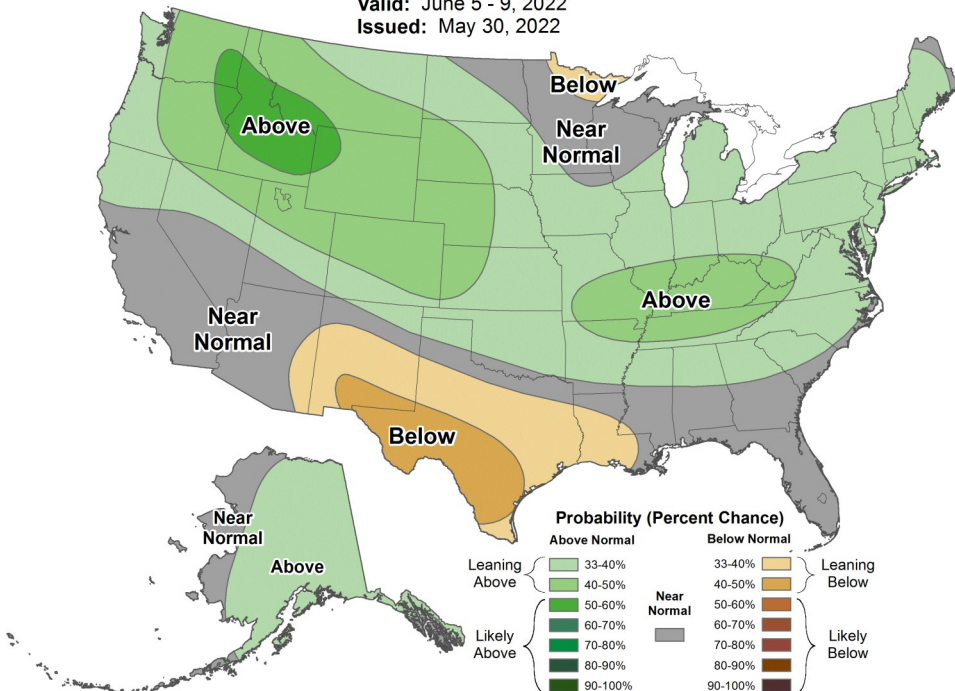
Joshua Knight, Senior Extension  
Associate & Managing Editor



### 6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook



Valid: June 5 - 9, 2022  
Issued: May 30, 2022



Precipitation Probability, June 5-9, 2022

Image: NOAA Climate.gov, 30 MAY 2022

- So you know you can grow, but have you identified your market yet?
- Growin' with Doctor Owen: PourThru Method for Nursery Crops
- 2022 KNLA Summer Summit Schedule Posted

# So you know you can grow, but have you identified your market yet?

Tara Watkins, Extension Associate, Nursery Crops

As new nursery businesses continue to pop up across the Bluegrass in the last two to three years, it is important for these new ventures to make sure they are putting the correct foot forward first to create a solid foundation for the success of their business as they move forward.

You may be thinking, "I've got my land, I've got a green thumb, I've got the equipment and infrastructure I need. Now all I need are some plants to get started!" While these things are necessities in starting a nursery business, there is a critical component that is missing from those statements: "I've got my market identified!" In today's competitive business world, it is imperative to have a market end goal(s) thought through and have connections established before bringing the first plant onto your property.

There are a few primary ways that nursery crops are typically marketed: retail, mail-order, wholesale, re-wholesale, and landscapers.

*The following is an excerpt from UK Center for Crop Diversification Publication.*

**Retailers** market directly to the end consumer, typically homeowners. This most commonly done either through retail nurseries, which produce some or all of their own plant material, or garden centers, which purchase their inventory from a wholesale nursery. These businesses must be conveniently located for consumer access, ideally near urban or high-traffic areas. Retail nurseries additionally require adequate space and facilities for production, either on-site or at a nearby location.

**Mail-order nurseries** sell directly to the end consumer. Their plants are shipped directly to the customer rather than sold at a retail outlet. This is a great option for nurseries that produce specialty plants and whose customers are plant enthusiasts located across the country or globe. The vast majority of mail-order nurseries sell either bare root or small container-grown plants (1 gallon containers or smaller) due to high shipping costs and difficulties in packaging, but larger plants can be sold by mail-order nurseries if they are highly valuable.

**Wholesalers** produce plants that are typically sold in large batches at significantly lower prices to landscapers, retailers or other nurseries that grow and resell the material at a larger size. Wholesale production is usually most efficient when a limited number of plants are grown in large numbers.

**Re-wholesalers** purchase large orders of various plants from wholesale producers and resell the plants to landscapers requiring diverse but smaller orders.

**Landscape nurseries** usually produce plants for their own in-house landscaping service, but some may sell plants at a retail outlet."

Once you have identified the market(s) in which you want to capitalize upon for your nursery business, you can begin making connections and promoting your nursery product within that market. For more information on identifying markets for your business, please visit [www.uky.edu/CCD](http://www.uky.edu/CCD) and browse the **Nursery & Ornamental publications** within their **Marketing** page.



Figure 1: Container production at Kentucky wholesale nursery.

# Growin' with Dr. Owen: PourThru Method for Nursery Crops

W. Garret Owen, PhD, Extension Specialist, Controlled Environment Horticulture

Nutritional disorders are among the many challenges nursery growers encounter during crop production. Nutritional disorders often occur when substrate pH or soluble salts [referred to as electrical conductivity (EC)] drifts above or below optimal ranges for plant uptake.

The PourThru method is a great procedure to determine substrate pH and EC (nutritional status) of containerized crops.

This **infographic**, located on the next page, will help you quickly and easily perform the PourThru procedure to test substrate pH and EC in-house without disturbing plant roots or removing substrate.

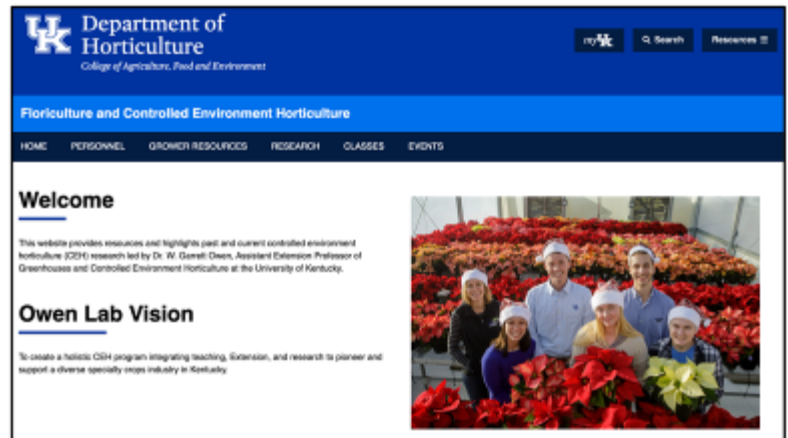
It is also available among the other **Nutrition** related publications on the **Grower Resources page** of the new **Controlled Environment Horticulture Website**

<https://greenhousehort.ca.uky.edu/>

## Fact Sheets



## New Website



[www.greenhousehort.ca.uky.edu](http://www.greenhousehort.ca.uky.edu)

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The PourThru method is a quick and easy procedure to test substrate pH and EC in-house without disturbing plant roots or removing substrate. The general procedure to perform a PourThru is outlined below:

## STEPS

1

Irrigate 3 to 5 representative plants or the entire crop to container capacity.



2

While waiting 30 minutes to 1 hour, calibrate the pH and EC meter(s). Refer to CEH-1-RG.



3

Place a plastic collection saucer under each container to be sampled.



4

Pour distilled water over the substrate surface, circling the plant.



5

Collect leachate from each saucer for pH and EC evaluation.



6

Test each leachate sample and record the pH and EC values for each plant.

pH:



EC:



7

Interpret results of the leachate samples using the searchable database at [www.fertdirtsquirt.org](http://www.fertdirtsquirt.org).



Common Name: Boxwood  
 pH Category: III - pH 5.8 - 6.2  
 Fertilization Category: Medium - 150-200ppm  
 EC Category: B

1:2 Extract EC: 0.6 - 0.9  
 Saturated Media Extract EC: 1.3 - 2.0  
 Pour Thru EC (bottom): 1.3 - 2.0  
 Pour Thru EC (top): 2.0 - 3.0

2022

Kentucky Green  
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

  
Summer  
Summit

JUNE 22nd. and JUNE 23rd.

Featuring a Bus Tour and Evening at  
Yew Dell Botanical Gardens!

*The Summer Summit is open to anyone interested in attending,  
pre-registration is REQUIRED in order to attend.*



## Wednesday, June 22nd

7:30am - 8:30am - Registration Check in at the  
Holiday Inn Express/Hurstbourne

9:00am - Bus departs the hotel

### Stop 1:

9:30am - 10:30am - Churchill Downs

### Stop 2

10:50am - 11:50am - Waterfront Botanical Gardens

### Stop 3

12:20pm - 1:20pm - Kentucky Kingdom

4:00pm - Tour of Yew Dell Botanical Gardens

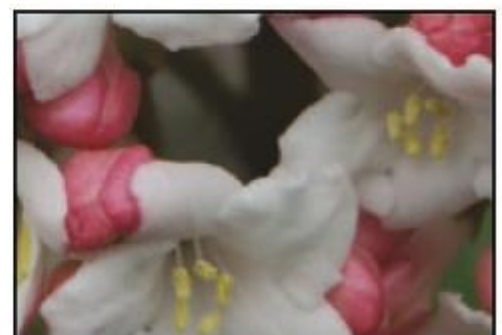
5:30pm - 6:30pm - Cocktail Hour/Cash Bar

6:30pm - 9:00pm - Keynote Speaker



## Thursday, June 23rd

Schedule attached.



For more information, please visit [www.knla.org](http://www.knla.org) or email [info@knla.org](mailto:info@knla.org)

**2022****Kentucky Green**  
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE**THURSDAY - JUNE 23rd.**

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. (EST)	PEST MANAGEMENT	Plants/Design
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Pesticide Regulation Update <b>Roy Brad Smith</b>	Plants: Native, Exotic, Aggressive, and Invasive. <b>Andrea Wilson Mueller CPLD</b> <b>Jacob Stidham</b>
9:35 a.m. - 10:35 a.m.	Rusts, rots, spots, and more: Getting to Know the Harmful Microbes <b>Tara Watkins</b>	Greening campuses: Nature Rx for education and health <b>Christopher Sass, PhD</b> <b>Ned Crankshaw, FASLA</b>
10:40 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.	Bees, Pesticides, and Politics: Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Urban Landscapes <b>Daniel Potter, Ph.D.</b>	West Kentucky Native Plants and Where do They Live <b>Winston Dunwell, Ph.D.</b>
11:10 a.m. - 11:45 p.m.	<b>Vendor Introduction</b>	<b>Vendor Introduction</b>
11:45 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.	<b>LUNCH &amp; BUSINESS MEETING</b>	<b>LUNCH &amp; BUSINESS MEETING</b>
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Sustainable Landscaping <b>Paul Vincelli, Ph.D</b>	Green Walls for Human Health <b>J. Eric Spangler</b>
2:05 p.m. - 3:05 p.m.	Pesticides, Risks, and Safety <b>Ric Bessin, Ph.D.</b>	Perennial and Annual designs for the public – find out some best practices and plants used in designing for public spaces. <b>Kyra Back</b>
3:10 p.m. - 4:10 p.m.	The Sinister Six: Turf Pests to Watch for in 2022 <b>Jonathan Larson, Ph.D.</b>	Science and Art at the Baker Arboretum <b>Martin Stone, Ph.D.</b>

**Pesticide, Arboriculture, and Landscape Architecture CEU credits available.**

The University of Kentucky's **Nursery Crop Extension Research Team** is based out of two locations across the bluegrass to better serve our producers.

The **University of Kentucky Research and Education Center (UKREC)** in **Princeton** serves western Kentucky producers while our facilities and personnel on main campus in **Lexington** serve central and eastern Kentucky producers.

Check out our [YouTube Channel!](#)

Like us on [facebook!](#)

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Visit us on the web at

<https://NCER.ca.uky.edu/>

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