

K-State Extension Butler County

September 2026

➔ Agriculture

Fall Armyworms (FAW) and Soybean Pod worms have arrived in Butler County, and in true fashion, they have done some damage to crops and brome fields. Scouting your fields and forages is important for finding damage early and mitigating the problem. Recently, we held a FAW Webinar. That recording can be found on our Butler County Extension YouTube Channel [@butlercountyextension1247](#)

Soybean Pod Worm information can be found on the [K-State Agronomy Website](#).

➔ Family and Consumer Sciences

1 in every 6 Americans will experience a foodborne illness yearly. September is National Food Safety Education Month; a month focused on preventing foodborne illnesses, also known as food poisoning. Many types of bacteria can survive on food and even in freezing temperatures. Microwaving is also not guaranteed to help eliminate the risk. Proper food preparation is critical to ensure the safety of you, your family, and those you are preparing food for. Handwashing is another component of food safety that needs to take a front-row seat. This month, make a commitment to protecting your family from foodborne illnesses. Visit the [FDA Food Safety Education Website](#) to learn the best methods of safety.

➔ Horticulture

Cover crops improve soil quality, reduce weeds and erosion, and can support pollinators. The best choice depends on your goals and planting time. Wheat can be seeded from mid-September to late October at $\frac{3}{4}$ –1 pound per 1,000 square feet, while spring oats can be seeded through mid-September at 2–4 pounds per 1,000 square feet and will winter-kill. Daikon radishes help break up compacted soil with their deep taproots. Nitrogen-fixing legumes such as hairy vetch, alfalfa, and sweet clover can be seeded at $\frac{1}{4}$ – $\frac{1}{2}$ pound per 1,000 square feet. For more recommendations, see the [Kansas Garden Guide](#) from K-State Extension.

➔ 4-H Youth Development

As another 4-H year comes to a close, we want to say one simple but important thing: thank you! Behind every 4-H member is a family and support system helping make their experience possible. Thank you to the parents and guardians who juggle schedules, gather supplies, meet deadlines, practice presentations, care for animals, and cheer from the sidelines. Thank you to siblings, grandparents, extended family, and friends who encourage members along the way, and to our amazing 4-H volunteers who give their time and talents to help young people learn and grow.

While the ribbons and trophies are exciting, the skills gained through 4-H, responsibility, perseverance, communication, teamwork, leadership, and confidence are what truly last. Thank you, 4-H families, for being an important part of the Butler County 4-H family and for helping our members become Beyond Ready for whatever comes next!

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