



Why wait until spring? Strawberries can be planted this fall.

By Pat Melgares, K-State Extension News Service

Kansas gardeners may have more flexibility than they realize when it comes to planting strawberries, according to research at Kansas State University. While many gardeners traditionally plant strawberries from mid-March to early April, when soil can be worked, preliminary research by at K-State's Olathe Horticulture Research-Extension Center indicates that

June-bearing strawberries also can be successfully planted in late summer and early fall. The research is currently being conducted by Ravneet Sandhu, a research assistant professor at the Olathe location. "Fall provides an often-overlooked window for establishing June-bearing strawberries in Kansas," K-State horticulture expert Matt McKernan

said. "(The university's) initial findings show that plants can be established from late August through late September without negatively affecting yield or fruit quality." Researchers have studied annual plasticulture strawberry production at the Olathe center since 2024. In this system, strawberries are grown in raised beds covered with plastic mulch, typically with drip irrigation beneath the mulch. Plants are established each year and removed after a single fruiting season, generally from May through June. McKernan says the timing of fall planting is important, however. Strawberries planted too late may not become sufficiently established or accumulate enough growing degree days -- a measure of heat accumulation

used to track plant development -- to produce an adequate spring crop. K-State researchers also tested whether floating row covers could provide an advantage during fall establishment. The study used the June-bearing cultivar "Ruby June," planted in late August, mid-September and late September in 2024 and 2025. According to McKernan, some rows received lightweight row covers for two weeks after planting, while others remained uncovered. Researchers then used a heavier row cover on all plants during winter to provide protection from cold temperatures. "The row covers did increase cumulative growing degree days during fall establishment in both years," McKernan said. "However, that increase did not translate into a significant difference in overall yield or fruit quality the following spring."

The findings suggest Kansas growers do not necessarily need to limit June-bearing strawberry planting to spring, if adequate winter protection can be provided to the plants. "Planting from late August through late September appears to be a viable option for annual June-bearing strawberry production," McKernan said. "That gives growers another opportunity to establish plants under conditions that can be favorable for root and plant growth."

McKernan added that researchers continue to learn about which strawberry cultivars perform best under Kansas growing conditions. Preliminary results indicate the cultivar Chandler may be a strong choice, with consistently competitive yields across two seasons of research. Camino Real, Keystone and Fronteras also showed strong yield potential during their first year of data collection in 2025-26.

McKernan said more

Sheriff's Office activity report

The call log for the Rooks County Sheriff's Office for the week of September 7th through September 13th reads as follows: Administrative Calls 350, 9-1-1 Calls 36, Non-Injury Accidents 3, Criminal Cases 1, Miscellaneous Cases 7, Traffic Stops 14, Motor Assists 3, Animal Calls 3, Arrests 3, Papers Served 23, and Average Number Of Inmates Housed For The Week 10.

Crossroads Quilt Guild

The August 17th meeting of the Crossroads Quilt Guild was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with refreshments brought by Nikki Miestrell and Linda Gardner. Roll Call was taken, and 12 members were present, with a couple of finished projects.

Minutes were approved, with Betty Bedore making a motion to approve, and seconded by Diane Maddy. The motion carried. Diane Maddy gave the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Jennifer Guffey and seconded by Linda Stamper to approve. The motion carried.

Sew Days are as follows: Plainville had four, and Stockton had none. The next Sew Days are as follows: September 9th for Plainville and September 12th for Stockton. We need to register for Nicole's Sew Days to get an accurate count.

Old Business: Nine participated at the Fair booth.

Under New Business is the Fund Raiser Quilt. Diane Maddy and Betty Bedore will draw the win-

ner's name on September 6th, and it will be videoed so everyone can see the name being drawn.

The Committee Report discussed the VFW-donated fund for Quilts of Valor. The Committee determined that \$100.00 would be used per quilt to reimburse the quilter for supplies used to create the QOV quilts. The motion was made by Toni Anderson and seconded by Diane Maddy. The motion carried.

During Announcements, we received a thank-you from Linda Gardner.

Our next meeting is September 21st, 2026, with hostesses Toni Anderson, Marti Windholz, and Nicole Gagnoung.—Sent in by Secretary Terri Collins.



Plainville Volleyball at LaCrosse: Maddy Dintino, Hudsyn Bethel and Shelby Molina (Photo Courtesy of Candace Rachel)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ROOKS COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
JESSE HULSE, Deceased

Case No. RO-2026-PR-25

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in this court by Denise Hulse, an heir of Jesse Hulse, deceased, praying for the determination of the descent of decedent's property, real and personal, or interests therein, owned by the decedent at the time of death; and you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before October 13, 2026, at 10:00 A.M., of said day in said court, in the City of Stockton, in Rooks County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

Denise Hulse
Petitioner

Terry L. Cikanek
CIKANEK LAW OFFICE
P. O. Box 517
Stockton, KS 67669
(785) 425 -6731
Attorney for Petitioner

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2026, September 24, 2026,
and October 1, 2026—3tc)

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ROOKS COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Adoption of
JESSALYNN CLAIRE
WEBSTER, a minor

Case No. RO-2026-AD-000002

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in the above-named court praying for an order and decree of said court permitting and authorizing the adoption of Jessalynn Claire Webster born on the 15th day of October, 2012, at 6:34 A.M., at Ft. Smith, Arkansas. You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 20th day of October, 2026, at 10:00 A.M., in the Courtroom of the District Court of Rooks County, Stockton, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein judgment and decree will be entered on said petition.

Terry L. Cikanek #10150
CIKANEK LAW OFFICE
P.O. Box 517
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(785) 425-6731
Attorney for Petitioner

(First Published in the
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PUBLIC NOTICE

BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

NOTICE OF FILING APPLICATION

RE: Black Oak Exploration, LLC, 1474 S St Paul St, Denver, Colorado, 80210 (KCC License #35354) – Application to authorize the enhanced recovery of saltwater into the Lesage 3 well, located in Rooks County, Kansas.

TO: All Oil & Gas Producers, Unleased Mineral Interest Owners, Landowners, and all persons whomsoever concerned.

You, and each of you, are hereby notified that Black Oak Exploration, LLC, has filed an application with the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) to authorize the enhanced recovery of saltwater into the Lansing Kansas City formation at the Lesage 3 well, located in the SE NW SW NE (1750' FNL and 2150' FEL) Sec 18-7S-20W, with a maximum operating pressure of 1200# and a maximum injection rate of 2000 barrels per day.

Any persons who object to or protest this application shall be required to file their objections or protest with the Conservation Division of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas within thirty (30) days from the date of this publication. These protests shall be filed pursuant to Commission regulations and must state specific reasons why granting the application may cause waste, violate correlative rights or pollute the natural resources of the State of Kansas.

All persons interested or concerned shall take notice of the foregoing and shall govern themselves accordingly.

Black Oak Exploration
1474 S St Paul St
Denver, CO 80210
admin@blackoakexploration.com
KCC Op Lic# 35354

(First Published in the
Sentinel-Times
September 17, 2026—1tc)

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