

Central Wisconsin Agricultural Extension Report



University of Wisconsin-Extension

An EEO/Affirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements

Volume 18, Issue 1

January 2015

Inside this issue:

2015 Pesticide Classes	2
Improving Beef Cattle Feedlot Systems	3
Pork-Corn-Soy Expo January 29-30	3
Wisconsin Feed Efficiency Meetings	4
How prepared are you? Managing Dairy Employees Effectively	6
UW-Extension Nondiscrimination Policy	8
Grower Education Conference February 3-5 Wisconsin Muck Growers Association Meeting February 4	8
Nutrient Management Training February 4 & 11	9
SNAP-Plus Training February 17 & 24	9
Farm Women's Luncheon February 19 & 25	10
Annual CAFO Meetings scheduled for February	11
Midwest Manure Summit February 24-25	11
Processing Vegetable Crops Meeting March 4	12
Small Farm Organic Waste Stream Management March 10	12
Badger Swine Symposium March 12	13
Beef Quality Assurance & Body Condition Scoring Workshop March 27	13
Wisconsin Dairy & Beef Well-Being Conference April 30	14
Calendar of Events	14

Meetings Explaining the 2014 Farm Bill Commodity Programs

The 2014 Farm Bill which was passed last February has proven to be a rather complicated program. In Wisconsin the commodity crops covered include corn, soybeans, wheat and oats. Crops not covered in the program include alfalfa, potatoes, cranberries and other specialty crops. Most potato and vegetable growers have base acres from other farms which would make them eligible for program coverage.

The 2014 Farm Bill established three programs to replace Direct Payments, Counter Cyclical Payments, and ACRE Payments. These three programs are Price Loss Coverage (PLC) and Agricultural Risk Coverage County (ARC-CO) and Agricultural Risk Coverage Individual (ARC-IN).

UW-Extension will be holding local meetings to provide additional information and suggestions concerning these programs. All meetings will be held from 1 to 3 PM. We have five meetings scheduled:

- January 23, Waupaca County UW-Extension, Courthouse, Lower Level
- January 26, Marquette County UW-Extension Office, Demonstration Room
- January 28, Green Lake County Government Center Training Room
- January 30, Adams County UW-Extension Office, Room 145B
- February 5, Waushara County UW-Extension Office, Demonstration Room.

These five meetings will be conducted by UW-Extension and will provide some examples and suggestions about which programs may be more favorable financially to local growers. Personnel from the local FSA offices should be on hand to answer questions specific to FSA. There is no charge to attend and no pre-registration is required.

Important dates to remember are February 27 as the deadline for a landowner to update farm yields and base acres, March 31 to sign up for either the ARC or the PLC program (March 15 for PLC if you desire to sign up for the Supplemental Coverage Option, SCO).

Price Loss Coverage is essentially the same as the Counter Cyclical Payments program, except it now has higher target prices (which are now called Reference Prices). Payments are made to farmers for low crop prices when the national average crop price over the whole marketing year is below the Reference Price. For corn and soybeans the marketing year runs from September 1 to August 31. A key note here is that the Reference Price is the national crop price and the average over the whole marketing year, not the price the farmer actually receives.

Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) is the new commodity support program

(Continued on page 2)

to replace ACRE. The 2014 Farm Bill created two versions of ARC, a County ARC program and a Whole-Farm ARC program. The County ARC creates a revenue guarantee at the county-level for each program crop, and then eligible farmers receive ARC payments if the actual county revenue is less than the actual county guarantee. ARC uses a 5-year Olympic average of each county's yields (the Olympic average drops out the high and the low years and takes the average of the remaining three). The PLC Reference price is used if it exceeds the national marketing year average price and the 70% of the county T-yield is used if it exceeds the actual county yield. The county ARC guarantee is 86% of the 5-year Olympic average price times the 5-year Olympic average of county yields. The ARC payment rate is the county guarantee minus the actual county revenue, up to 10% of the 5-year Olympic average price times the 5-year Olympic average of county yields.

Whole Farm ARC works essentially the same as the County ARC program, in that it establishes a revenue guarantee and then if the actual revenue falls below this guarantee, the farmer receives payments. Whole-Farm ARC uses the historical and actual revenue for each program crop, but averages across all program crops, weighting by each crop's planted acres.

Once a person signs up for the program you are locked into that program for the duration of the 2014 Farm Bill which lasts through the 2018 crop year.

2015 Private Pesticide Applicator Training Classes Offered By: Ken Schroeder

Private Pesticide Applicator Training classes will once again be offered by your local UW-Extension office. Anyone who intends to purchase, mix, load, apply, or direct the use of restricted use pesticides as a private applicator must be certified. Certification is good for five years. There are two ways to become certified. Purchase and study the training manual and attend an all-day training class offered by your local UW-Extension office. These classes consist of presentations followed by a written exam at the end of the day. If you are unable to attend one of the classroom sessions, the second option is to self-study and schedule time through the UW-Extension office to take the exam on your own.

Training manuals are available at your local UW-Extension office and must be purchased at least five (5) days before the class or individual exam is taken.

January 20	-	Green Lake County	February 25	-	Marathon County
February 4	-	Adams County	February 26	-	Marathon County
February 6	-	Portage County	March 4	-	Waupaca County
February 11	-	Waushara County	March 5	-	Green Lake County
February 13	-	Wood County	March 6	-	Portage County
February 18	-	Marquette County	March 9	-	Adams County
February 20	-	Juneau County	March 25	-	Waushara County

Visit the Central Wisconsin Agricultural Specialization Team on the Web
<http://fyi.uwex.edu/cwas/>

Improving Beef Cattle Feedlot Systems

Dates to be determined

By: Lyssa Seefeldt, Marquette County and Ken Schroeder, Portage County

A meeting on improving cattle feedlot systems is going to be hosted in February or March 2015 in Portage County, date and time to be determined. Topics to be covered will include feedlot design considerations, bedding economics, conservation practices, and funding sources. Topics addressed will be applicable to large or small feedlot operations. More information will be release once details are finalized.

For more information on this program and to be on the contact list when details of the program are released, please contact: Lyssa Seefeldt, Marquette County Agriculture Agent at 608-297-3141 or lyssa.seefeldt@ces.uwex.edu or Ken Schroeder, Portage County Agriculture Agent at 715-346-1316 or ken.schroeder@ces.uwex.edu

Pork-Corn-Soy Expo: An Opportunity to Get PQA Plus & TQA Certified

January 29-30

By: Lyssa Seefeldt, Marquette County

Pork Quality Assurance Plus is a way to show your customers that you not only produce pork, but you care about producing hogs in a safe, responsible manner. Area swine producers and their employees will have the opportunity to become Pork Quality Assurance Plus (PQA Plus) certified on January 29 at the Pork-Corn-Soy Expo in Wisconsin Dells. This training is an opportunity to certify in the program, or renew your certification. The training session will focus on the 10 Good Production Practices, which are common sense practices based on sound scientific principles. Individuals must pass an open-book exam, scoring 85% or better. Certification is good for three years from the training date. There will also be the opportunity to get Transport Quality Assurance certified on January 30.

Does January 29 not work for your schedule to re-certify for Pork Quality Assurance Plus? An online option is available to you (please note that new certifications do not have this option and require face-to-face training). Contact the Marquette County UW-Extension office to enroll in this option. Other training days and locations can be arranged. Please contact Lyssa Seefeldt, Marquette County Agriculture Agent at 608-297-3141 or lyssa.seefeldt@ces.uwex.edu to discuss additional training days.



Quantities still available — 2014 Wisconsin Farm Technology Days Barn Calendar and Lenco Commemorative Toy



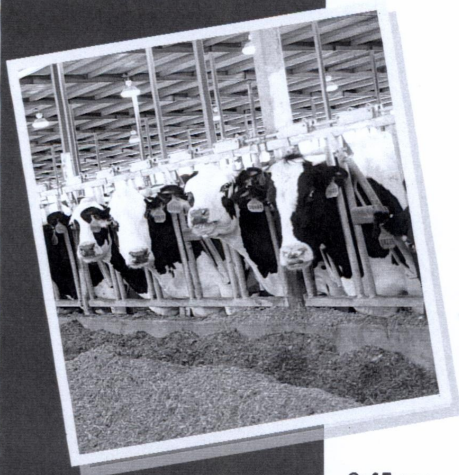
Still available from 2014 Portage County Farm Technology Days: Barn Calendar (runs September 2014-December 2015) and the 2000 Lenco Self Propelled Airhead Potato Harvester Commemorative toy. Check out the Portage County Farm Tech [Online Store](http://www.portagecountyfarmtech.com/online_store.php) at http://www.portagecountyfarmtech.com/online_store.php to order.



UW-Extension Dairy Team

Wisconsin Feed Efficiency Meeting

February 10th Country Aire F1312 Cty Rd P Stratford



University of Wisconsin-Extension invites you to a Feed Efficiency Workshop, which will focus on Herd Management to Improve Feed Efficiency of Dairy Cows.

As part of the multi-state Genomic Selection and Herd Management to Improve Feed Efficiency of the Dairy Industry Project, the University of Wisconsin-Extension and the Department of Dairy Science want to provide you with updates about results obtained from a recent survey of Wisconsin and Michigan dairy farms, tools for nutritional feeding, and best ways to incorporate these tools into your farm management.

Agenda

- 9:45 am:** Registration
- 10:00 am:** Dr. Randy Shaver: Nutritional feeding of lactating dairy cows
Dr. Victor Cabrera: Management tools to increase feed efficiency
Dr. Francisco Contreras-Govea: Nutritional grouping
- 12:00 pm:** Adjourn

Wisconsin Feed Efficiency Meeting

Register Online <http://goo.gl/ftRsU6>

or return form to:

UW-Extension Attn: Feed Efficiency 212 River Dr. Suite # 3 Wausau, WI 54403

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____
E-Mail Address: _____ Farm: _____

Please make checks payable to: UW-Extension
Cost: \$10 includes handouts and coffee service

UW
Extension
University of Wisconsin-Extension

For more information

please contact...

Heather Schlessner

Dairy Agent

UWEX Marathon County

715.261.1230

heather.schlessner@uwex.edu

University of Wisconsin, States Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin Counties Cooperating.

An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The University of Wisconsin-Extension provided equal opportunities in employment and programming including ADA and Title IX requirements.

UW-Extension Dairy Team

Wisconsin Feed Efficiency Meeting

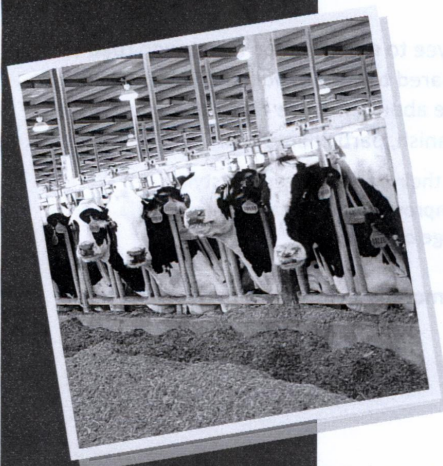
Other Meetings across the state:

<u>Date</u>	<u>For More Information Contact:</u>
January 6th	Greg Blonde UWEX – Waupaca County 715-258-6230
January 29th	Liz Binversie UWEX – Brown County 920-391-4612
February 10th	Heather Schlessor UWEX—Marathon County 715-261-1230
February 10th	Jamie Patton UWEX – Shawano County 715-526-4871
February 25th	Tim Jergenson UWEX – Barron County 715-537-6250
February 25th	Ryan Sterry UWEX – St. Croix County 715-531-1930
February 26th	Mark Hagedorn UWEX-Eau Claire County 715-839-4712
February 26th	Trisha Wagner UWEX-Jackson County 715-284-4257

UW-Extension Dairy Team

How Prepared Are You? Managing Dairy Employees Effectively

A Bilingual Middle Manager Training on Employee Management



DATES & LOCATIONS:

January 21st and 27th
UW Extension Marathon Co
Suite #5
212 River Drive
Wausau, WI 54403

February 4th and 11th
UW-Extension Fond du Lac Co
400 University Drive
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

February 10th and 17th
The Ravine
2633 Manitowoc Road
Green Bay, WI 54311

"The key to success in any business is to help other people be successful in their jobs." Effective employee management is a critical aspect of any successful agri-business. Developing the necessary management skills doesn't happen overnight, and they are difficult to achieve without some guidance. The challenge of training good managers is important to the profitability of any business.

The transition from employee to manager can be a tough road to navigate. In this two day workshop, UW-Extension agents will share "people skills" with participants to help them be successful in their jobs: communication, conflict management, trust and respect, and leadership.

Agenda

Day 1:

- 9:00 am: Introduction—Why are we here?
- 9:30 am: Maximizing your Potential: Using the REAL Colors System
- 11:30 am: Communication Cultural Barriers
- 12:15 pm: Lunch
- 1:00 pm: Using Style to Manage Conflict
- 2:15 pm: Behaviors and Characteristics of a Good Leader

Day 2:

- 9:00 am: Review of Day 1
- 9:30 am: Assertive Management
- 10:30 am: Establishing Trust and Respect: Multicultural Aspects
- 11:30 am: Lunch
- 12:15 pm: Conducting Performance Reviews
- 1:15 pm: Leadership Through Time Management

UW
Extension
University of Wisconsin-Extension



Northcentral
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

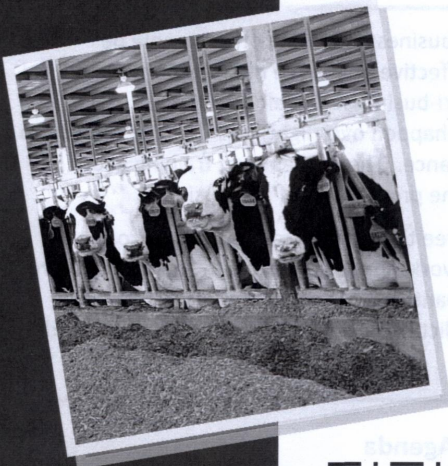


University of Wisconsin, States Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin Counties Cooperating.
An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The University of Wisconsin-Extension provided equal opportunities in employment and programming including ADA and Title IX requirements.

UW-Extension Dairy Team

How Prepared Are You? Managing Dairy Employees Effectively

3 different locations-Bringing Employee Resources to Farmers



The transition from employee to manager can be a tough road to navigate. This program geared toward middle managers who have an interest in learning more about effective employee management. Provided in English and Spanish, participants will:

- Learn about and develop their own management style
- Learn effective ways to improve communication
- Learn to effectively manage conflict

Pricing for one: 3 or more individuals from the same farm:

1 Day: \$60 per person \$50 per person
2 Days: \$100 per person \$90 per person

For more information
please contact...

Heather Schlessner
Dairy Agent
UWEX Marathon County
715.261.1230
heather.schlessner@uwex.edu

Tina Kohlman
Dairy & Livestock Agent
UWEX Fond du Lac County
920.929.3180
tina.kohlman@uwex.edu

Aerica Bjurstrom
Agriculture Agent
UWEX Kewaunee County
920.388.7138
aerica.bjurstrom@uwex.edu

UW
Extension
University of Wisconsin-Extension

How Prepared Are You? Managing Dairy Employees Effectively

Register Online <http://goo.gl/7nm631> or return form to appropriate location:

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____
E-Mail Address: _____ Farm: _____

Make Check Payable to: **UW-Extension**

☐ X Two Day Session
☐ X Day 1 only ☐ X Spanish speaking individuals attending
☐ X Day 2 only ☐ X English speaking individuals attending
\$ _____ Total Enclosed

Please select location:

☐ January 21st and 27th

MAIL TO:

UWEX Marathon County

Attn: Heather

212 River Dr. Suite # 3

Wausau, WI 54403

Registration deadline Jan 9

☐ February 4th and 11th

MAIL TO:

UWEX Fond du Lac County

Attn: Tina

227 Admin/Extension Bldg

400 University Drive

Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Registration deadline: Jan 28

☐ February 10th and 17th

MAIL TO:

UWEX Kewaunee County

Attn: Aerica

Kewaunee Co Admin Ctr

810 Lincoln Street

Kewaunee, WI 54216

Registration deadline: Feb 3

University of Wisconsin, States Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin Counties Cooperating.

An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The University of Wisconsin-Extension provided equal opportunities in employment and programming including ADA and Title IX requirements.

UW-Extension Cooperative Extension Nondiscrimination Policy

Periodically, UW-Extension, Cooperative Extension takes steps to assure that our partners know and understand our policy of nondiscrimination. This letter is to remind or notify you that the University of Wisconsin-Extension does not discriminate in the treatment of individuals, in admission or access to its programs and activities, in the provision of services, or in employment.

Further, UW-Extension, an institution receiving federal financial assistance through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, cannot participate with or partner with organizations that discriminate on the basis of any of the legally prohibited categories of discrimination, based on Civil Rights laws. Categories of prohibited discrimination include race, color, gender/sex, creed, disability, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital or parental status, arrest or conviction record, or membership in the national guard, state defense force or any other reserve component of the military service.

Consistent with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons who need materials in alternative format or other accommodations are encouraged to write or call the UW-Extension contact person for the specific program or call the main telephone number of their local county Extension office, as early as possible prior to the event so appropriate arrangements can be made. Requests are kept confidential. Individuals who need special access due to hearing impairment may contact their local county Extension office by calling the relay service for the hearing impaired by dialing 711.

On behalf of the Central Wisconsin Agricultural Specialization Team (Cooperative Extension Offices in Adams, Green Lake, Juneau, Marquette, Portage, Waushara and Wood Counties), we thank you for collaborating with UW-Extension on educational programs. We appreciate your support and partnership as we provide education designed to meet the needs of the diverse residents of these counties.

2015 UW-Extension and Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association Grower Education Conference February 3-5
Wisconsin Muck Growers Association Meeting February 4
By: Ken Schroeder

Growers attending the conference will have the opportunity to get a head start on the season with expert market outlooks, research reports, information on new technologies and agribusiness advice. The conference is a great place for growers to get the advice, tips and insights that will give them the edge they need in a tough business. We have an excellent slate of speakers and presentations. Program details and full agenda are available on the Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association web site www.wisconsinpotatoes.com.

There is a block of rooms available at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center. The cost is \$97 for single or double and rooms can be reserved by following the link on the WPVGA website. You can find the link by visiting the www.wisconsinpotatoes.com home page and clicking on the Featured Event, **2015 UW Extension & WPVGA Grower Education Conference and Industry Show**. The room block will be held until January 30, 2015.

For more detailed program information, conference registration forms and hotel information, check the Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association website or call WPVGA 715-623-7683. **Early registration deadline is January 16, 2015.** Send registration forms and payment to: **WPVGA, PO Box 327, Antigo, WI 54409, (715) 623-7683.** Please note that rates will increase after January 16, 2015 so register today!

Two-Part Nutrient Management Training: February 4 and 11

By: Jamie Patton and Nav Ghimire

Green Lake County UW-Extension and Land Conservation Departments are jointly implementing a two-part Nutrient Management Training for farmers. The topics covered in the training are: why is nutrient management an issue; State and federal direction on nutrient management; components of a nutrient management plan; understanding soil test reports; management of nitrogen; and phosphorous and potassium fertilizers in the soil and soil health.

Benefits of the training include: reduced fertilizer cost; managing soil fertility; maximizing crop yields; and ability to write a nutrient management plan. Jamie Patton, Shawano County UW-Extension Agriculture Agent and Nav Ghimire, Green Lake County UW-Extension Agriculture Agent are the instructors for the training.

Location: The workshop will be held in Green Lake County Training Room located at Government Center, Court House and will run from 10 am – 3 pm. There is no registration fee for the training. Lunch will be provided to all who attend. Please pre-register in advance and allow us to make your lunch arrangements. For registration please call Kathy Ninneman at 920-294-4032 OR email at: kninneman@co.green-lake.wi.us OR stop by Green Lake County UW-Extension office located at 571 County Road A, Green Lake.

Two-Part SNAP-Plus Training: February 17 and 24

By: Todd Morris and Nav Ghimire

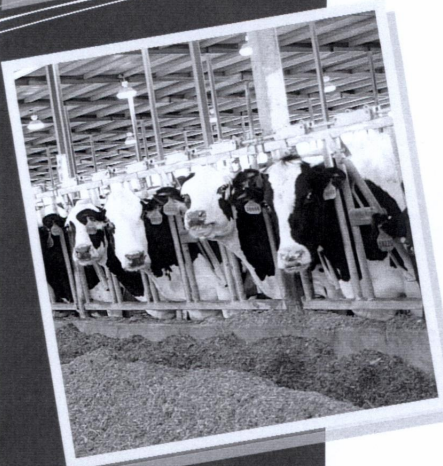
SNAP-Plus is computer software designed for Wisconsin farmers to prepare their Nutrient Management plan. You will have a chance to work on your nutrient management plan using SNAP-Plus. It is an excellent tool for tracking nutrient applications and updating your nutrient management plan every year.

Benefits of SNAP-Plus training include: saving money by writing your own plan; reduced fertilizer cost; managing soil fertility; maximizing crop yields; tracking your crop nutrient application; and crop rotation history. Todd Morris, Soil Conservationist, Department of Land Conservation, Green Lake County and Nav Ghimire, Agriculture Agent, Green Lake County UW-Extension are the instructors for the training.

Location: The workshop will be held on Green Lake County Training Room located at Government Center, Court House and will run from 10 am – 3 pm. Please bring your soil test report (within last four years) on a 5 acre/sample basis. Please ask your lab for an electronic copy of the soil test report in SNAP-Plus. If you don't have an electronic copy, just bring your written copy and we will download it into SNAP-Plus for you.

There is no registration fee for the training this year. Lunch will be provided to all who attend. Please pre-register in advance and allow us to make your lunch arrangements. For registration, please call Kathy Ninneman at 920-294-4032 OR email at: kninneman@co.green-lake.wi.us OR stop by in Green Lake County UW-Extension office located at 571 County Road A, Green Lake. Please mention SNAP-Plus Training while you register.

Quarterly Farm Women's Luncheon



DATES & LOCATIONS:

February 19th
Best Western
W17267 Red Oak Ln
Wittenberg, WI 54499

February 25th
Country Aire
F1312 County Road P
Stratford, WI 54484

This quarterly luncheon group is designed for Women in Agriculture. The goal of this luncheon series is to address the needs of farm women by providing education on pertinent topics, connecting them with agricultural resources, and creating support networks.

The First luncheon is sponsored by Edward Jones - Financial Advisor: CJ Robinson.

It is common for farmers to invest all of their savings back into the farm. After the record high milk production and milk prices seen in 2014 it is not unexpected to see repairs and new equipment showing up in 2015. CJ is going to discuss with us various investment vehicles available to us. CJ will facilitate an open discussion about investment vehicles and tax-smart strategies to consider when navigating volatile milk prices. In addition, CJ will be available to meet one-on-one with attendees who have specific, sensitive or situational questions.

Agenda

- 11:00 am: Introductions
11:30 am: Identify topics of interest for future luncheons
12:00 pm: Lunch
How to plan for your future, Investment options:
local Edward Jones financial advisor CJ Robinson
1:00 pm: Adjourn

Quarterly Farm Women's Luncheon

Register Online: <http://goo.gl/ayrr7n>

or return form to :

UW-Extension C/O Farm Women 212 River Dr. Suite # 3 Wausau WI 54403:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Farm: _____

☐ February 19th:

Best Western - Wittenberg

Registration deadline: Feb 9

☐ February 25th:

Country Aire—Stratford

Registration deadline: Feb 16

***UW* Extension** **Edward Jones®**
University of Wisconsin-Extension **MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING**

University of Wisconsin, States Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin Counties Cooperating.
An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The University of Wisconsin-Extension provided equal opportunities in employment and programming including ADA and Title IX requirements.

Annual CAFO Meetings scheduled for February

Contact: Kevin Erb, kevin.erb@ces.uwex.edu (920) 391-4652

Seven Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) Annual Update Meetings are scheduled throughout Wisconsin in February 2015. These meetings are intended for Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permitted CAFO owners, managers, consultants, nutrient management plan writers and key staff, and are presented by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and University of Wisconsin-Extension.

Meeting dates and locations in Central Wisconsin:

- Wednesday, Feb. 4: New London at Crystal Falls, 1500 Handschke Dr. Contact: Joan Laehn at Laehn_jm@co.brown.wi.us.
- Tuesday, Feb. 10: Fond du Lac at UW Fond du Lac, 400 University Dr. Contact: Joan Laehn at Laehn_jm@co.brown.wi.us.
- Wednesday, Feb. 11: Marshfield at Marshfield Ag Research Station, 2611 Yellowstone Dr. Contact: Richard Halopka at 715-743-5121.
- Other dates and locations can be found at <http://go.wisc.edu/e00x60>

The workshops will focus on improvements made to nutrient management plan implementation, improving communication between plan writers, permit holders and DNR, and updates on regulations that affect CAFOs.

Topics include:

- Public notice requirements for new land
- Permit-required reporting including annual reports and Nutrient Management Planning updates
- Update on new Implements of Husbandry regulations
- Engineering review requirements
- A panel discussion of the challenges of weather-related delays in fall and spring applications
- Winter spreading stacking requirements, pre-permit meetings and inspections

All meetings will be held from 9 am to 3 pm. Continuing Education Unit (CEUs) credits for CCAs will be applied for. **Please register at least one week prior to the meeting** you plan to attend to receive a discounted registration rate of \$30. Registrations after that deadline increase to \$45. [Details and registration forms](http://go.wisc.edu/e00x60) about each workshop can be found at <http://go.wisc.edu/e00x60>

Midwest Manure Summit February 24-25 By: Matt Lippert, Wood County



UW-Extension invites you to join producers and professionals from across the country at the Midwest Manure Summit on February 24 & 25, 2015 at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center in Green Bay.

The Midwest Manure Summit is a two-day conference for farmers and agri-business professionals focusing on the processing and handling of manure. As we know, managing manure can be a challenge for many farming operations. New technologies are being developed and employed to effectively and productively use manure in both agricultural and energy production systems. During the two-day summit, experts from across the country will discuss the latest techniques and methods for handling manure on farms of all sizes. For more information go to the website: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/midwestmanure/> Please mark your calendar and join us for this great event!

Processing Vegetable Crops Meeting March 4 By Ken Williams, Waushara County

The University of Wisconsin-Extension is sponsoring the annual Processing Vegetable Crops Meeting on March 4, 2015, from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, **at the Hancock Agricultural Research Station**, N3909 County Rd V Hancock, WI 54943. Registration will be from 8:30 to 9:00 am. This seminar will concentrate specifically on issues affecting vegetable production in Central Wisconsin. UW-Extension specialists will present information on agricultural sustainability, vegetable water use, nitrogen fertility management in sweet corn, disease issues, and insecticide and herbicide updates for processing vegetables.

Vegetable production is a vital part of the economy of Central Wisconsin. The counties of Portage, Waushara, Adams, Green Lake and Juneau produce 68% of the state's potato production, 49% of the state's sweet corn production, 62% of the state's snap bean production and 38% of the state's pea production. In 2007 there were 140,000 acres in this area used in the production of potatoes, sweet corn, green beans and peas.

Pre-registration is required by March 2 in order to make lunch and space arrangements. Registration of \$25 will cover refreshments and lunch. Certified Crop Advisor Credits will be applied for. There is ample free parking available. People may register by mailing a check to UW-Extension, PO Box 487, Wautoma WI. 54982. For additional information contact Ken Williams, 920-787-0416, ken.williams@ces.uwex.edu.

Getting it Right – Small Farm Organic Waste Stream Management Learn about small farm digesters for biogas production. By: Ken Schroeder and Caitlin Koller

When: Tuesday March 10th, 10:00 AM to Noon

Where: Portage County Annex Building, 1462 Strongs Avenue Stevens Point, WI 54481

There is a need for dependable and efficient solid waste disposal for farms in rural communities in Wisconsin. Capturing the biogas available in manure and turning it into electricity has become common at large dairy farms, reducing phosphate contamination from farm run-off and creating higher quality compost/fertilizer. In 2012 and 2013, the partnership between a world-wide energy industry leader, a small local area farmer and the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh resulted in the design, and installation of the first Wisconsin small farm prototype (50-250 cows) 'mixed' digester called the Titan 64 in Allenville, WI (also known as the Allenville Digester) producing electricity from methane derived from manure.

Digesters improve management of solid waste in environmentally sound ways, producing renewable energy, reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels, reducing fossil carbon emissions and reducing the amount of unprocessed waste being spread on the land thus developing more sustainable farming operations.

This is one of four similar general informational meetings being held around Wisconsin that focuses on educating participants on the concept of biodigestion technology at small-scale farms, sustainability, financials, and operational information.

Informational Session Presenters: - Intro - Location host; Dr. Gregory Kleinheinz - Lead Scientist of the Project; Brian Langolf - Plant Manager; Miller Engineering / Agronomist from Land and

(Continued on page 13)

Water (Nutrient Management); David Allen - Farmer.

A fifth and final meeting will consist of onsite training of a more targeted group of farmers interested in installing a biodigester or optimizing one they currently operate.

Other meeting locations: Grant County - Belmont Inn Convention Center (March 12)
Door County – Crossroads at Big Creek (March 17); Winnebago Land & Water Conservation (March 19). For additional information and to register contact Caitlin Koller at UW-Oshkosh, 920-424-0763.

Badger Swine Symposium March 12 By: Lyssa Seefeldt, Marquette County

The UW-Extension Swine Team, UW-Madison, UW-River Falls, UW-Platteville, and the Wisconsin Pork Association invite pork producers and industry professionals from across the state to attend the third annual Badger Swine Symposium. Speakers will address topics impacting the Wisconsin pork industry, including a Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea virus (PEDv) update.



Please join us at the Arlington Research Station on March 12. **The Badger Swine Symposium is free to attend, but pre-registration is required by March 1.**

For registration information, please contact Lyssa Seefeldt, Marquette County Agriculture Agent at 608-297-3141 or lyssa.seefeldt@ces.uwex.edu.

Beef Quality Assurance & Body Condition Scoring Workshop March 27 By: Lyssa Seefeldt, Marquette County



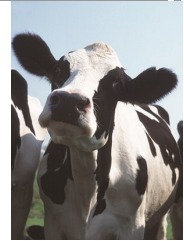
Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) is a way to show your customers that you not only produce beef, but you care about producing cattle in a safe, responsible manner. If you sell cattle to the local livestock market or particularly if you direct-market your beef, the BQA training is for you! Beef Quality Assurance programs are based on scientifically researched techniques that are proven by experts in the business. Best management practices in production, transportation, animal handling, and more are covered to help you produce your beef in a safe and responsible way. Certification is good for three years and after initial certification, you can maintain your certified standing by attending meetings that are approved for continuing education credits. More information on the BQA program in Wisconsin can be found at <http://fyi.uwex.edu/wbic/quality-assurance/>.

In addition to the BQA training, there will be a beef body condition scoring session. What is body condition scoring? Why should you care about body condition scoring? How do you body condition score? Where do you evaluate body condition? When should you be evaluating your animals? These questions and more will be answered at the workshop that is geared to cow-calf farmers.

The BQA and BCS workshop will be held at the Marquette County Service Center on March 27. **Preregistration for the BQA training & BCS workshop is required by March 13.** Registration is \$30 to cover Beef Quality Assurance training and a meal. Late registrations (registrations after March 13) will be charged \$45. For more information and to register for the BQA & BCS workshop, contact Lyssa Seefeldt, Marquette County Agriculture Agent at 608-297-3141.

Wisconsin Dairy & Beef Well-Being Conference April 30 By: Lyssa Seefeldt, Marquette County

The sixth annual Wisconsin Dairy & Beef Well-Being Conference is to be held in Kimberly, at Liberty Hall on April 30, 2015. This year's conference will be featuring Temple Grandin, Dee Griffin, Lily Edwards-Callaway, and Jan Schearer. The purpose of the conference is to expand awareness and understanding about the growing concern nationwide of how farm animals are cared for and what the implications could be for animal agriculture in Wisconsin. The conference features animal health and well-being topics, strategies for improvement in the cattle world, and an update on euthanasia. This one-day conference is designed for dairy and beef producers (the content of this conference applies to both), veterinarians, farm service providers, educators and interested elected officials. Continuing education credits are available for veterinarians.



An agenda and more information on the Wisconsin Dairy & Beef Well-Being Conference is available by going to <http://goo.gl/hUUWA0> which will take you to the Wisconsin Dairy & Beef Well-Being Conference website. Pre-registration is required by April 16 to receive early registration price of \$45. The cost for veterinarians looking for continuing education credits registering by April 16 is \$75. Register early, as seating is limited. Questions regarding the Wisconsin Dairy & Beef Well-Being Conference can be directed to Lyssa Seefeldt, Marquette County Agriculture Agent at 608-297-3141 or lyssa.seefeldt@ces.uwex.edu.

Calendar of Events

January

- 15-17 [Grassworks Grazing Conference](#), Wisconsin Dells
- 21, 27 Managing Dairy Employees Effectively, Marathon Co UW-Extension, Wausau
- 22-23 [Driftless Region Beef Conference](#), Dubuque, IA
- 23 Farm Bill Commodity Informational Meeting, 1-3, Waupaca Co Courthouse, lower level
- 26 Farm Bill Commodity Informational Meeting, 1-3, Marquette Co UW-Extension Demonstration Room
- 28 Farm Bill Commodity Informational Meeting, 1-3, Green Lake Co Gov Training Center Training Room
- 29 Wisconsin Feed Efficiency Meetings, Brown County. See Page 5 for other dates
- 29-30 [Wisconsin Pork-Corn-Soy Expo](#), Wisconsin Dells
- 30 Farm Bill Commodity Informational Meeting, 1-3, Adams County UW-Extension, Room 145B
- 31 [Wisconsin Indianhead Shepherd's Clinic & Tradeshow](#), Rice Lake

February

- 3-5 2015 UW-Extension and Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association Grower Education Conference, Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center, Stevens Point
- 4 Annual CAFO Meeting, 9-3, New London at Crystal Falls, 1500 Handschke Dr. Contact: Joan Laehn at Laehn_jm@co.brown.wi.us.
- 4, 11 Two Part Nutrient Management Training, 10-3, Green Lake Co Govt Center Training Room, Registration: 920-294-4032 OR email: kninneman@co.green-lake.wi.us or in person at 571 County Road A, Green Lake

February continued

- 4, 11 Managing Dairy Employees Effectively, Fond du Lac UW-Extension
5 Farm Bill Commodity Informational Meeting, 1-3, Waushara County UW-Extension Office, Demonstration Room
10 Annual CAFO Meeting, 9-3, Fond du Lac at UW Fond du Lac, 400 University Dr. Contact: Joan Laehn at Laehn_jm@co.brown.wi.us.
10 Wisconsin Feed Efficiency Meeting, Marathon County. See Page 5 for February dates/locations.
10, 17 Managing Dairy Employees Effectively, The Ravine, Green Bay
11 Annual CAFO Meeting, 9-3, Marshfield Ag Research Station, 2611 Yellowstone Dr. Contact: Richard Halopka at 715-743-5121.
12 Portage County Master Gardener Level I Training, Registration: 715-346-1316
13-15 [Wisconsin Garden Expo](#), Madison
17, 24 Two Part SNAP-Plus Training, 10-3, Green Lake Co Govt Center Training Room, Registration: 920-294-4032 OR email: kninneman@co.green-lake.wi.us or in person at 571 County Road A, Green Lake
19 Quarterly Farm Women's Luncheon, Best Western, W17267 Red Oak Ln, Wittenberg, 54499.
24, 25 Midwest Manure Summit, Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Green Bay. Register: www.midwestmanure.com
25 Quarterly Farm Women's Luncheon, Country Aire, F1312 County Road P, Stratford, 54484.
25 [Beginning Beekeeping](#), Fond du Lac
26-28 [MOSES Organic Farming Conference](#), LaCrosse

March

- 1 Wisconsin Sesquicentennial & Century Farm applications due (contact your local UW-Extension office for more information)
4 Processing Vegetable Crops Meeting, 9-3, Hancock Agricultural Research Station, N3909 County Rd V, Hancock 54943. Pre-registration due March 2. Cost: \$25 to UW-Extension, PO Box 487, Wautoma WI. 54982.
10 Getting it Right – Small Farm Organic Waste Stream Management, Portage County Annex Building., 1462 Strongs Avenue Stevens Point, Registration: Caitlin Koller, UW-Oshkosh, 920-424-0763.
12 Badger Swine Symposium, Arlington, Lyssa Seefeldt, Marquette County Agriculture Agent 608-297-3141 or lyssa.seefeldt@ces.uwex.edu
27 Beef Quality Assurance, registration due March 13, Lyssa Seefeldt, Marquette County Agriculture Agent, 608-297-3141

April

- 6, 7 Artificial Insemination Certification Program, Maple Ridge Dairy, EP 4271 March Rapids Ave., Stratford. \$70/person. Pre-register with payment by March 23 to AI Cert Program, UW-Extension, 212 River Dr., St. 3, Wausau, WI 54403. Register online: <http://goo.gl/FQ5Uru>
30 [Wisconsin Dairy & Beef Well-Being Conference](#), Liberty Hall, Kimberly. Registration per person (includes proceedings, lunch, and refreshments) Before April 16: \$45; After April 16: \$55. Registration per veterinarian receiving CEU's (includes proceedings, lunch, and refreshments). Before April 16: \$75; Registration After April 16: \$85.

August

- 25-27 [Wisconsin Farm Technology Days](#), Dane County



Portage County UW-Extension
1462 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point WI 54481-2947

NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
STEVENS POINT WI
PERMIT NO. 96

Return Service Requested

An EEO/Affirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements.

Vacant Adams County Agromony & Nutrient Mgt. 569 N. Cedar, Suite 3 Adams, WI 53910 (608) 339-4237	
Ken Schroeder Portage County Vegetable Production 1462 Strongs Avenue Stevens Point, WI 54481 (715) 346-1316 ken.schroeder@ces.uwex.edu	Craig Saxe Juneau County Dairy & Forage Management 211 Hickory St. Mauston, WI 53948-1386 (608) 847-9329 craig.saxe@ces.uwex.edu
Matt Lippert Wood County Dairy & Cranberry Production Courtthouse, 400 Market St. PO Box 8095 Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-8095 (715) 421-8440 mathew.lippert@ces.uwex.edu	Ken Williams Waushara County Farm Business Management Courtthouse, 209 S. St. Marie Wautoma, WI 54982-0487 (920) 787-0416 ken.williams@ces.uwex.edu
Nav Raj Ghimire Green Lake County Agromony, Commercial Horticulture & Marketing 571 County Road A Box 3188 Green Lake, WI 54941-3188 (920) 294-4032 nav.ghimire@ces.uwex.edu	Lyssa Seefeldt Marquette County Livestock Production & Emerging Markets 480 Underwood Avenue PO Box 338 Montello, WI 53949 (608) 297-3141 lyssa.seefeldt@ces.uwex.edu

How to Contact Team Members