



**Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
MARINETTE COUNTY

Courthouse  
1926 Hall Avenue  
Marinette, WI 54143  
Phone: 715-732-7510



If you will need any type of accommodation or assistance as you attend any Extension sponsored event, please contact the host county or Scott at the Marinette County office at least two days prior to the event. All requests will be confidential.

Scott Reuss  
715-732-7510  
1-877-884-4408  
cell 715-701-0966  
[reuss@marinettecounty.com](mailto:reuss@marinettecounty.com)  
[scott.reuss@wisc.edu](mailto:scott.reuss@wisc.edu)

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

## August/Sept, 2022 Newsletter

Another newsletter, another change. Kimberly Schmidt has resigned her position as Dairy Educator for Marinette, Oconto, and Shawano Counties. We expect the position to be refilled fairly efficiently, so watch for news of that position in local newspapers.

As corn silage season quickly approaches, Extension is assisting you in the harvest decision-making (timing!) process. Although much different than in the past, there are a number of opportunities for everyone to get corn whole plant moisture sampling done free of charge. Thank you for funding from Oconto and Langlade Extension offices particularly, as well as the Shawano County Forage Council.

My thanks to Beaver Machine for again donating use of a tractor and implement for completion of the youth tractor and machinery safety certification.

Please consider getting me your email address and cell phone number, so that I can add you to electronic notification systems that I will be developing more fully in the near future. Send me a text or email and feel free to send me contact info for others from your farm, as well.

Scott Reuss

### Table of Contents:

Page 2	Corn Silage Moisture Sampling Schedule & Silage Mgmt.
Page 3	Nitrogen Rate & Product Field Day - Lena
Page 3	Fall Forage Management, Crops Sales Pointers
Page 4	Soil Health Training - Harmony
Page 5	Corn Silage, Cover Crops & Winter Forages Field Day - Pulaski
Page 6	Corn Silage and Nitrogen Management Plot Field Day - Bryant
Page 7	Corn Silage and Cover Crops Field Day - Cty Line
Page 8	Manure Spill Response Demonstration & Winter Wheat Field Day

### Upcoming Events

Tuesday, August 30	Pound	Manure Spill Response Demonstration & Winter wheat field day (page 8)
Wed., Sept. 7	Cty Line	Silage, Interseeded Cover Crops Field Day (pg. 7) Silage sampling 9:30 to 10:30
Thurs., Sept. 8	Crivitz	Silage Sampling 8:30 to 9:30 (pg. 2)
	Bryant	Corn N & other nutrient management, silage and cover crops management field day (page 6)
Tues., Sept. 13	Pulaski	Silage, Cover Crops, and Winter Forages Field Day Silage sampling 9:30 to 10 and noon to 1:30
Tues., Sept. 20		Corn Silage Sampling Day (details on page 2)
Fri., Sept. 23	Harmony	Soil Health Training (page 4)
Thurs., Oct. 13	Lena/Pound	Corn Nitrogen rate and biological products plot day (page 3)

# Corn Silage Moisture Monitoring for 2022

Serving 5 counties does not allow me to conduct corn silage moisture sampling as I have done in the past. However, we are providing sampling at a number of events and one specific sampling day for later planted corn. Sponsored by Langlade, Marinette and Oconto County offices of UW-Madison, Division of Extension and the Shawano County Forage Council. Moisture analysis conducted free of charge for three samples per farm, \$10 each for additional samples. The events we are having this year are meant to coincide with the observation that corn tasseled all the way from July 19 to August 10. For most on-farm silage storage situations, corn silage is at optimum harvest moisture approximately 50 days after the corn tassels, although soil moisture can change that up to 1 week.

## **2022 Sampling Events:**

- + Wed., Sept. 7 @ County Line – Silage sampling 9:30 to 10:30 (see page 7 for details)
- + Thurs., Sept. 8 – @ Crivitz Feed Mill from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
  - = Bryant area – Silage sampling from 11 a.m. to 12:30 (see page 6 for details)
- + Tues., Sept. 13 @ Pulaski – Silage sampling from 9:30 to 10 a.m. and noon to 1:30 p.m. (pg. 5)
- + Tuesday, September 20 at the sites and times below:
  - = Crivitz Feed Mill from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
  - = Peterson’s Dairy from 9:45 to 10:30 a.m.; 6336 Goatsville Road, freestall at SE corner.
  - = Blaser Farms from 11 to 11:45; 9267 Hwy. 22 – in front of shop, use drive by house.
  - = Herman Town Hall from 12:15 to 1 p.m.; N5628 Cty. U, just south of 29.
  - = Riesterer & Schnell, Pulaski, from 1:30 to 2:15 p.m.; Deer Drive entrance area

These opportunities are meant to be a chance to get your silage, snaplage, or early HMC samples tested in a relatively convenient manner. Also take advantage of other opportunities that you may have through your agronomist, nutritionist, or by conducting your own sampling and testing.

Collecting a Good Sample Sample collection is very important to getting good test results. The first step to collecting a good sample is to think about the different fields and/or varieties that you want tested. Each variety will mature and dry-down differently, and there are always differences from field to field, so plan on sampling most of the fields that you are thinking about ensiling this year. When collecting the actual sample plants, collect your sample according to the variability in the field. If the field is pretty consistent, collect at least five plants in a W-shaped pattern from the area being sampled. If the field is variable, collect more plants and collect at least one or two from each size of plants found in the field. Lastly, collect them as soon as possible before you leave for the collection site.

Storage considerations for corn silage High-quality corn silage can be produced in many different types of storage structures. However, each structure type - bunker silo, silage bag, upright silo, or silage pile - needs to have the corn silage at a certain range of whole-plant moisture to achieve the best possible results. The recommendation is to hit the following ranges:

Silo Type	Recommended Moisture %
Upright	60-65
Upright, oxygen-limiting	50-60
Horizontal silos	65-70
Silage bags and piles	60-70

Packing Capacity – When packing silage into a bunker silo, you must have enough packing weight to adequately handle the forage coming into the bunker. If you do not pack adequately, you will lose dry matter and forage quality. A quick rule-of-thumb is that you need about 800 lbs of weight per delivered wet ton per hour. For example, 80 tons delivered per hour requires 64,000 lbs of packing capacity. Stated Simply: Pack or Lose! If you do not take the time to pack correctly, you will have lost 2 to 5 times as much silage to spoilage as you should. So do your best by: 1. Use the heaviest tractors you can. Total weight has shown to be more important than per tire weight. 2. Unload the silage in thinner layers. This will allow each layer to be more properly packed. 3. If feasible, slow down your delivery rates. The single most important variable to final silage density in a significant study a few years ago was delivery rate. If the rate was less than 60 ton/hour, the final density was sufficient, if more than that, the density decreased.

# Corn Nitrogen Product & Rate Plot Field Day

**Thursday, October 13 10 a.m. to Noon**

Located at intersection of Larmey Lane & Hogsback Road, 0.5 miles north of Cty WW on Hogsback Road  
or 2 miles south of Cty M on Town Line/Hogsback Road

+ View the nitrogen rate and nitrogen biological product interaction plots

+ Nutrient management on corn in NE WI

+ Do Biologicals work in our environment?

+ How do weeds and nutrients interact in our fields?

Join Jamie Patton, UW NPM Sr. Outreach Specialist, and Scott Reuss, Regional Crops/Soils Educator for this plot tour and discussion aimed at improving your corn profitability.

Free to attend No registration required

## Crop Management Notes

### **Fall Alfalfa/Perennial Forages Management Considerations**

September is the time to analyze your alfalfa (and mixed perennial forages) fields and formulate plans for the rest of this year and going into next year. There were some marginal fields kept for 2021 that definitely need analysis and decision making. First question you need to answer is regarding stand density. Alfalfa needs at least 55 stems per sq. ft. consistently throughout the field to maximize yield potential. 40 to 55 stems per sq. ft. can often be justifiably maintained, as long as the consistency is good or you have some other forage species in there, as well. If less density than this, you need to either supplement the stand or rotate.

The other big question is how much forage do you need? Have you conducted a good feed quantity assessment for your operation, preferably with your nutritionist? If you need higher quality alfalfa, fall harvests are a strong option, but you do need to keep some harvesting recommendations in mind.

1. Try not to harvest alfalfa between about Sept. 10 and 30. In our area, that is the most dangerous time frame for alfalfa, as it is still too warm for it to go dormant, but too cool for it to have enough growth capacity to fully recharge roots/crowns after a harvest event.
2. For stands you really want to have survive winter, try to harvest before Sept. 10. This allows for sufficient regrowth to help keep snow cover on the field and minimize winter hardiness risk.
3. If harvesting in October, maximum yield is going to be achieved by cutting a couple days prior to a killing frost. Of course, this requires either believing weather forecasts or being your own best prognosticator. The big point here is that quality and yield are maximized if you are able to cut while it is still alive and growing. If cutting after a freeze, try to do so as soon after the event as you can.

### **Selling/Buying Crops with other Producers**

If you are considering selling or buying any type of crop, there are a few things to keep in mind as you get ready for the transaction. Of course, first you need to find a willing partner. Especially for forages, neighbors are the place to start, as transportation logistics limit distances which buyers are usually willing to work around. Let extension agents, nutritionists, crop insurance personnel, feed mills, agronomists, etc... know that you have crops which you would be willing to sell to get the word out. There are also opportunities to do newspaper ads, use commercial internet sites, or the state-wide farmertofarmer.extension.wisc.edu web site. Finding a partner and giving yourselves time to work out details makes everything simpler in the long run and can hopefully prevent misunderstandings caused by time crunches and the stress of harvest season.

Figure out sales contract points ahead of time. Making a handshake deal and saying 'We'll figure it out after the fact.' might work for some situations, but it also creates many opportunities for problems. Make up a (simple) written contract. Include data points such as how it is being sold, price per unit, who is doing what regarding harvest operations, date ranges, payment methodology, etc... You don't need to hire a lawyer to get this done, but getting a second opinion from someone (Extension, agronomist, nutritionist) is probably well worth it. Pricing starts with current hay/straw prices and current grain prices, but there are other quality/quantity factors that you need to take into account. Call me and I will gladly help you think through possibilities, assist with contract wording, and can also do yield estimates.

# SOIL HEALTH 2022

## Marinette County: Peshtigo River

SEPT  
23



Conservation Professional  
Training Program

This project is funded in part by a grant from the WILDRP  
to improve water quality in 9 Key Element Watersheds



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources  
Conservation Service



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## Soil Health - Peshtigo River Watershed

**Location:** Harmony Arboretum & Strutz Farm, N3890 Cty E, Peshtigo

**Date:** September 23, 2022

**Time:** 9:30am - 3:00pm

Join us to discuss practices that benefit your farm and help water infiltrate into your soil. See how different management practices conserve soil and nutrients, and witness the results in real time with a rainfall simulator.

Get an earthworm's view of the field from a soil pit and learn how to assess your own fields' soil health; participating farmers will also be able to take a free soil-health test kit back to their farm to measure compaction, infiltration and soil stability, compliments of a grant.

Lunch is included in the registration.

Once you register, you will receive a confirmation email. There is no charge to participate.

The event is co-sponsored by UW Madison, Division of Extension and the Marinette County Land & Water Conservation Division.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to limited funding, priority for attendance (and soil health kits) will be given to those who farm in and adjacent to the Peshtigo River Watershed. If capacity limits are reached, those outside the target area may be placed on a waiting list.

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements. For information on this program, or to request accommodations, contact Kevin.Erb@wisc.edu.

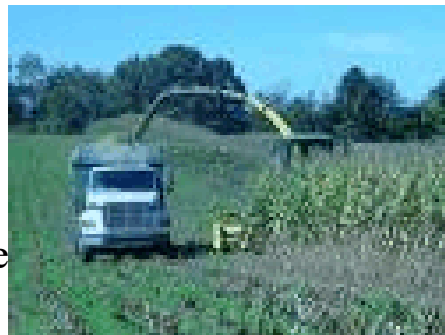
Register for this event by going to <https://go.wisc.edu/8q6590>

As noted above, preference will be given to farms that are within the Peshtigo River Watershed, specifically the Lower Peshtigo (think Towns of Porterfield, Peshtigo, East Lake, & Grover).

# Corn Silage, Cover Crops, & Winter Forages Field Day

Tuesday, September 13  
10 a.m. to Noon  
(plus corn silage sampling times)

Back 40 Acres – N3220 Cedar Road; Pulaski  
(1/2 mile north of Hwy. 29; If coming from north, take  
Church Dr. off Cty C or F to Cedar, then south 1.5  
miles to farm.)



Free event, including three free corn silage moisture samples per farm (\$10 per sample for additional samples)

Discussion led by Jamie Patton, Regional NPM Outreach Specialist, and Scott Reuss, Regional Crops/Soils Extension Educator

- + Cover Crop and Winter Rye/Triticale Forage management after corn silage
- + Corn Silage Harvest and Storage Management
- + Cover Crops in other cropping systems and situations
- + Improving soil health in a corn silage system
- + Q & A and other topics from attendees

Corn Silage Sampling provided from 9:15 to 10 a.m. and from Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Pre-registration not required, contact Scott Reuss with any questions, at 715-701-0966 or e-mail to [scott.reuss@wisc.edu](mailto:scott.reuss@wisc.edu)

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. If you will need accommodation or assistance as you attend this event, please contact the Marinette office, at 715-732-7510, as soon as possible prior to the event.

---

## Other Events to watch for notices:

Brown Star Farms and Wagner Farms hosted events for the Green Bay West Shore Demonstration Network are being planned for October. Opportunity to see practices, management activities, and discuss opportunities.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# Agriculture Field Day



September 8, 2022  
11:30am - 2:30pm  
Location Maly Farms Plots  
N5777 Hill Road  
Bryant, WI 54418  
1/4 mile south of  
Cty. Hwy O

If Raining it will be held at the  
Neva Town Hall  
N5500 County Rd A, Deerbrook, WI 54424

## Schedule of Events:

11:00 am - 12:30 pm Corn Silage Moisture Sampling - 5 free samples per farm (see website or contact Reuss for sampling instruction); Nitrogen Product and Rate Plot Viewing

12:30-2:30 pm Discussion led by Scott Reuss and Dan Marzu, NPM Regional Outreach Specialist. Topics to include: Cover Crops and Manure Management after silage harvest, Nitrogen Management, Maximizing Corn Silage Returns; & Attendee Questions

Free to attend  
No pre-registration  
required

For more information  
contact Scott Reuss  
Crops/Soils Educator  
scott.reuss@wisc.edu  
Office: 715-732-7510  
Cell: 715-701-0966



# GREEN BAY WEST SHORE

## Demonstration Farms Network

### FIELD DAY AT FINGER FAMILY FARMS

**SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> 10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

**JOIN US FOR A FIELD DAY, HOSTED BY FINGER FAMILY FARMS IN COOPERATION WITH UW-MADISON DIVISION OF EXTENSION, ON WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2022 FROM 10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM. LUNCH PROVIDED FOR ALL ATTENDEES. PLEASE R.S.V.P ON FACEBOOK, BY EMAIL [MATT@TILTHAG.COM](mailto:MATT@TILTHAG.COM) OR TO 920-470-3889 BY MONDAY SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>**

Come see Corn Interseeded with Covers; Discuss cover crops with UW NPM Outreach Specialist Jamie Patton; and have a silage management discussion with Extension Agent Scott Reuss. Silage samples, provided by Extension, starting at 9:30 a.m. 3 per farm free, \$10 per sample for each additional sample. Lunch will be provided at noon. We hope you can join us on the 7<sup>th</sup>!

Participation in this event is voluntary and all participants are responsible for following best practices in regards to their safety. This is an agricultural tourism event and anyone participating in or observing an agricultural event concerning the Green Bay West Shore Demonstration Farm Network assumes the risks inherent in the agricultural tourism event that may include condition of the land, unpredictable behavior of animals, the ordinary dangers associated with equipment used in farming operations and the potential that a participant in the agricultural tourism activity may act in a negligent way that may contribute to injury or death. The agricultural tourism provider is not liable for the injury or death of a person involved in an agricultural tourism activity resulting from these inherent risks.

### Maximizing Corn Silage Returns

---

**Covers Interseeded  
Into Corn & Cover  
Crop Mgmt after Corn  
Silage**

---

**Silage Moisture  
Sampling, 9:30 to  
10:30 A.M.**

---



**Extension**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

### FIELD DAY LOCATED AT

**FINGER FARMS FIELD  
NEAR 8092 ELM LANE RD  
Oconto, WI 54153**

Park on Woodview Rd, Watch for  
Green Field Day Signs

Questions call Matt  
920-470-3889

Follow us :

@GBWSDemo on Facebook  
and Twitter



## Manure Spill Response Demonstration

**DATE: August 30, 2022**

**TIME:**

**10am to Noon ~ Manure Spill Demo & Question and Answer Time**

**12:00 to 12:30 ~ Lunch Provided**

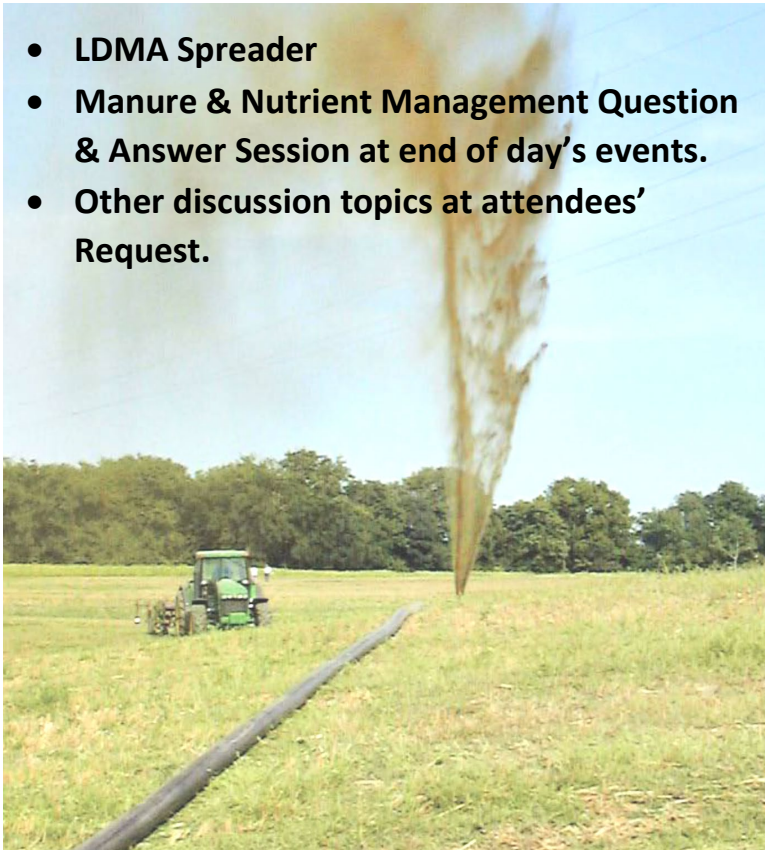
**12:30 to 1:30pm ~ Winter Wheat Discussion**

**Spills happen . . . what should you do if it happens to you?**

**Join us at Noll Farms to see a Live Action Manure Spill and Response!**

**Meet us at the field at W6579 Joy Ln, Pound, WI. (1 mile south of Hwy 64 on Augustine Rd, east on Joy Ln.)**

- **LDMA Spreader**
- **Manure & Nutrient Management Question & Answer Session at end of day's events.**
- **Other discussion topics at attendees' Request.**



**Learn from UW-Madison Extension and the DNR about how to contain the spill and how to report it.**

**An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Division of Extension, provides equal opportunities to employment and programming including Title IX, The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.**

