



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
MARINETTE AND OCONTO COUNTIES

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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.

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December, 2024 Ag Newsletter

The 2024 harvest season was about as disjoint as the rest of the 2024 growing season. Half of it was too dry and half of it was too wet. I hope your season went safely and that you did as well as our year’s growing conditions allowed. As we finish plans for the winter workshop season, I have a simple question for you—What educational programming (specific topics, general concepts, or very specific questions that have evaded your answers) can Extension provide that will help your operation? Your thoughts on that question are as important, to me, as anyone else’s thoughts, so please share via contact info to the side. Extension doesn’t have cost-share monies and doesn’t sell stuff, but we do local research and analyze all other research to help all of you be better at what you do.

Speaking of cost-share, though. If you plant cover crops on acres that have crop insurance and do not receive cost-share for those planted acres, you are likely eligible to apply for Wisconsin’s \$5 per acre crop insurance rebate program. Apply soon, first come first served, at covercroprebate.wi.gov but make sure you do so ASAP and by Jan. 25, at the latest.

Table of Contents

Page 2	Navigating Your Ag Business:From Stress to Success
Page 3	Pesticide Applicator Training & Testing Process
Page 4 & 5	Dairy News & Opportunities
Page 6	Farmland Rental Workshops and Nitrogen / Manure Management research project results

Calendar of Events

Dec. 12 11 am	Cecil	Farmland Rental & Contracts Workshop (pg 6)
Dec. 16 10 am	Shawano	Shaw Cty NM Plan Training—if still interested in taking part, contact Shaw Cty LWCD at 715-526-4632
Dec. 17 3 pm	Coleman	Farmland Rent/Contracts workshop
Dec. 18 12:30 pm	Antigo TH	Famland Rent/Contracts workshop
Dec. 17 & 18	WI Dells	WI Water and Soil Health Conference
Jan. 13 & 14	WI Dells	WI Agribusiness Classic
Jan 23-25	WI Dells	Grassworks Grazing Conference
Jan. 30	Antigo	Pesticide Applicator Training (pg. 3)
Feb 6 & 7	WI Dells	WI Corn/Soy Expo
Feb 17-19	WI Dells	Midwest Forage Association, WI Custom Operators & Professional Nutrient Applicators of WI Symposium
Feb. 21	Coleman	Pesticide Applicator Training (pg 3)
March 6	Shawano	Pesticide Applicator Training (pg 3)
March 25	Lena TH	Pesticide Applicator Training (pg 3)



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



Navigating Your Ag Business From Stress to Success

To learn more and register:

go.wisc.edu/NYAB

joy.kirkpatrick@wisc.edu

608-263-3485



This course is designed to support farm businesses to make decisions, take action to move their farms forward, and reduce the farm members' stress. It combines online self-paced learning activities with live online group meetings, fostering a supportive peer community. The self-paced work takes approximately 10-15 hours over three months.

Activities include Money Habitudes, the history of your farm and how it is currently operated, reviewing financial preparedness, conducting a SWOT analysis, exploring your visions for your farm, and developing next steps.

Important Dates:

- Online course opens **January 1, 2025**
- First live Zoom **January 28, 2025** from 6-7:30 PM CST
- Self-paced learning continues through March 2025
- Optional "open office hours" via Zoom on **Tuesdays throughout February and March** from 6-7 PM CST
- Final live Zoom on **March 25, 2025** from 7-8 PM CST

The course follows a 3-step process by answering three questions:

1. Where are you now?
2. Where do you want to be?
3. How do you get there?

You will learn how to:

- Prioritize your unique stressors
- Identify your financial goals
- Develop your vision and goals for your farm and family
- Design an action plan to address your stressors and reach your goals

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This course was made possible through the North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Center: Engaging Programs to Support Producer Well-being (NCFRSAC) is based upon work supported by the USDA/NIFA under award numbers 2020-70028-32728 and 2024-70028-43552

Private Pesticide Applicator Training 2025 Certification Process – Significant Changes!

This is year #2 of the new system all applicators must utilize to get certified as a Pesticide Applicator, so most have not yet analyzed the process. Please make sure you check your PAT license and get the process started if you need to renew before next application year.

If you need to renew or get a new PAT license, please read the rest of this page thoroughly and follow the steps to ensure you are able to attend the training event that works best for you. We are not allowed to take walk-in's, nor are we allowed to sell the books through county offices. Please make sure you give yourself time to get the book ordered and sent to you ahead of the training dates.

Anyone wishing to purchase or apply restricted use pesticides, or to apply any type of pesticide onto land not owned or controlled by them, must be certified via the Wisconsin Pesticide Applicator's licensing process. If you have any questions or concerns about the process, contact Scott Reuss, 715-732-7510, 715-701-0966, scott.reuss@wisc.edu

Private Applicator (allows you to apply on your owned/controlled land) certification options for 2024:

Step #1. You must order the PAT category 100/101 book from the PAT store website, <https://patstore.wisc.edu/>

Start by clicking on the Private Applicator button, then click on the appropriate category on the left hand side of the page. For most, it will be the '100/101 General Farming' tab, but some of you may want to do the Fruit Crops or Greenhouse/Nursery version.

Click on 'Add to Cart'. Before you pay for the manual (\$43), think about how you want to take the test and if you want to attend a training session. Read through the options in Step #2 below. If you want to attend a training class, you will need to click 'Continue Shopping', then click on the "Training Classes" tab on the left. You will need to scroll through the alphabetical list of counties that are hosting training. Each of our four counties are hosting one event, put the number of attendees in the appropriate county and then click add to cart (\$10).

You will then pay be able to checkout and pay via credit card. If you do not have a computer or a credit card, request a paper order form from either the Shawano, Marinette, or Langlade Extension offices, but make sure you do so at least a couple weeks ahead of when you want to attend training/testing. Again, manuals will not be available at county offices or at testing/training sites and we cannot accept walk-in's to the training/testing days.

Step #2. Figure out how/when you want to take training and take the test. You can do so in multiple manners.

A. Self-study the materials and schedule a time to take the test at the Shawano, Marinette, or Langlade Extension offices (or Green Bay DATCP center). With this option, you need to get 70% correct to pass. Options B and C require a 50% correct test score to pass the certification process.

B. Utilize on-line training. Register for this through the PAT website, under Private Applicators tab, then training sessions button. No fee. You have 120 days from registration to start the training, BUT you only have 14 days from when you start doing the training until completion. You then must schedule a test date, as in step A.

C. Attend a 'live' training and test day. Training begins at 9 a.m. for all these options, with test completion likely around 2 p.m. Again, you must register to attend these training sessions and pay the \$10 fee through the PATSTORE. Lunch will not be provided, although coffee/water and light snacks will be available. Plan on being at the site about 8:45 and feel free to bring along your own food, as desired.

++ January 30 @ Langlade County Board Room, Langlade Cty. Safety Building Lower Level, 840 Clermont St., Antigo.

++ February 21 @ Pound Town Hall, W8484 Cty. Hwy. B, Coleman (east edge of village)

++ March 6 @ Shawano County Courthouse, Meeting Rooms A/B Lower Level, 311 N. Main St., Shawano.

++ March 25 @ Lena Town Hall, 6087 Goatsville Road, Lena.

Scott Reuss, Crops/Soils Educator, will be moderating the training sessions, which will be delivered live via zoom with presentations being done by PAT staff. In case of technical difficulties, Reuss will be able to deliver the full training but is not allowed to offer the training on different/additional dates.

Dairy News and Opportunities

Survey says.....

Yep, we all love doing surveys, I know. However, if you are interested in sharing a few minutes of your time, there are two projects ongoing now that may be of interest to some of you.

We want to hear from you about Precision Dairy Technologies

We are looking for people involved in farm decision-making (owners, part-owners, managers, or consultants) to participate in a short survey about precision dairy technologies.

Participants who complete the survey will be entered to win one of twenty \$50.00 Visa gift cards.

Access the survey using the QR code or the link below!



go.wisc.edu/5k7515



Dr. Victor Cabrera and his postdoc Gustavo Mazon have put together a survey to evaluate the adoption of precision technologies by dairy farmers. This survey is part of the [Smart Farm Hub](#), a new platform for sharing content about artificial intelligence and technology in ag. The survey takes around 10 minutes and is for anyone involved in decision-making at the farm (owners, part-owners, family members, managers, etc.). This survey aims to reach farmers across the whole country, and will generate a series of articles about technology adoption on dairy farms.

Pollinator-friendly Management in Dairy Farms

Pollinator Partnership is conducting this survey and invites any current or past dairy farm owner or manager to take the "Pollinator-Friendly Management in Dairy Farms" survey to help them understand the challenges and opportunities of using pollinator-friendly management practices on dairy farms. They are specifically seeking input from all sizes of dairy farms. Responses will be used to help guide the development of resources to benefit dairy farmers and those interested in making dairy operations pollinator-friendly.

Why are pollinators important? Pollinators are essential to our functioning ecosystems and our food supply. Nearly 90% of the world's flowering plants need pollination, including most of our food crops. Pollinator-friendly management practices all help support healthy pollinator populations and diversity. Pollinators can provide significant benefits to producers by increasing pollination efficacy, improving soil health and water retention, providing erosion control, sequestering carbon, and more.

Please take the survey online at <https://cropsandsoils.extension.wisc.edu/pollinator-friendly-management-in-dairy-farms-survey/> or email ljs@pollinator.org if you prefer to arrange to do the survey via phone.

FROM DATCP:

Update on HPAI (H5N1) in Dairy Cattle

The following is an update on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) caused by the influenza virus H5N1. In the past 30 days, the USDA National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) has confirmed the presence of HPAI(H5N1) in 263 dairy herds within California and Utah. No detections of HPAI (H5N1) in Wisconsin cattle, poultry, or wildlife have been reported.

Biosecurity and Monitoring

- Producers should continue to enhance biosecurity and monitor disease in their herds.
- Report herds with unexplained symptoms to DATCP at (608) 224-4872 (business hours) or (800) 943-0003 (after hours and weekends).

Federal Order

- Lactating dairy cattle must test negative for Influenza A virus at a National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) lab before interstate movement.
- A subset of 30 cows must be tested for groups moving together.

Wisconsin Requirements

- Lactating dairy cattle must test negative for Influenza A virus before moving to fairs or exhibitions.



The Badger Dairy Insight webinar series continues each 3rd Tuesday of every month, from 11 a.m. to noon. The next live presentation in the series will be December 17th and feature Nutritional strategies to reduce methane emissions in lactating cows. Presenters: Chuck Nicholson, Agricultural Economist at UW-Madison and Matheus Pupo, PhD student at UW-Madison. The January 21st session is entitled "Fit for Transport".

The Badger Dairy Insight webinars are free, but pre-registration is required to join the live webinar. Register at <https://go.wisc.edu/bdi2324>. You can access all the previous presentations in recorded form on the Dairy Program web page, found at dairy.extension.wisc.edu

Also on the Dairy Program web page are various articles, resources, and links. A new article that is now available is regarding Activity Monitoring Technology for Reproductive Management of Dairy Cows. It reviews studies utilizing these technologies and their success rate in estrus detection and gives recommendations on how to utilize on-farm practices to maximize the advantages. The article does not review the various technologies that are available.

If you have any dairy-related questions or programming suggestions, contact Stephanie Bowers (contact info on front page).

Farmland Leasing & Contracts Workshops

Three sessions available, all featuring similar discussion and resources.

Thursday, December 12 Cecil Village Hall/Comm. Ctr. 111 E Hofman St., Cecil 11 a.m. start	Tuesday, December 17 Pound Town Hall W8484 Cty. Hwy. B, Coleman 3 p.m. start	Wednesday, December 18 Antigo Town Hall(adj. to airport) W9291 Hwy 64, Antigo 12:30 p.m. start
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Workshop information oriented toward both land owners and the farms that rent the land.

Why have a contract?

What should be in the contract?

How much is farmland worth?

Contract templates for easy use in the future are available.

What are the legal realities and nuances of renting farmland in Wisconsin?

Free to attend, no registration required. Many resources available that will assist with your land rent processes in the future. If have questions about the event, or cannot attend but want the resources, contact Crops/Soils Educator Scott Reuss at scott.reuss@wisc.edu or 715-732-7510.

Nutrient Management Research – 2024 results

Each upcoming edition of the ag newsletter will have results from at least one of the nutrient management research projects conducted in the region during 2024. This time, we feature corn and nitrogen (and manure), with the results from the Sievert Dairy hosted Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program Project. The Sievert site is one of 7 sites across the state. Lots of thanks go to the Sievert's for all the work involved with this intensive project and also to a large crew of personnel provided by Seed Concepts, Inc. and Pioneer as they ran the weigh wagons on harvest day.

This project features spring-applied manure and no manure areas within which 6 different nitrogen rates were applied via 32% incorporation. Each plot was 8 rows wide and a short quarter-mile long, so provided a very good test across the soil variation of the field. Each treatment (with and without manure, 6 N rates) was replicated 4 times in blocks, so there were 48 combine-width strips, plus a couple extras with some varying manure application rates. Potassium was applied to the no-manure areas to approximate the amount of K applied via manure.

The Economic Optimum Nitrogen rate where manure was applied was 0. So, even with the excess early rains, manure nutrients held in place and provided the plant-needed nutrients. Where manure was not applied, the Economic Optimum Nitrogen rate was 120 lbs N/acre, which matches local project data from the last three years very well.

Treatment yields averaged over 4 repetitions (Bu/acre as combined)

	Addl N	Ave Yield	Addl N	Ave Yield	
No Manure	0	177	Manure	0	250
	80	218		80	252
	120	236		120	255
	160	238		160	255
	200	247		200	256
	240	248		240	260