

Your county extension office



UW Extension Cooperative Extension Clark County

August 2011



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# 2011 CLARK COUNTY AG & HOUSEHOLD CLEAN SWEEP

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9  
8:30—11:30 AM LOYAL  
2—5 PM OWEN  
(County Hwy Garage)

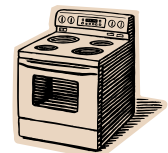
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10  
9 AM — 1 PM NEILLSVILLE  
(Clark County Fairgrounds)

For more information or a registration form contact: Clean Sweep, UWEX, 517 Court St Rm 104, Neillsville WI 54456 or call 715-743-5121. Registration deadline: Friday, August 26th.



### We take the following items:

- agricultural chemicals
- automotive chemicals
- household chemicals
- lawn & garden chemicals
- medications
- unknown chemicals
- appliances
- tires
- Batteries



### We will not take the following:

- waste motor oil and antifreeze
- household batteries
- propane cylinders
- explosives
- infectious and biological wastes
- radioactive materials (smoke alarms)
- latex paint\*\*

Maria Bendixen,

Dairy & Livestock Agent  
maria.bendixen@ces.uwex.edu

Richard Halopka,

Crops & Soils Agent  
richard.halopka@ces.uwex.edu

\*\*Latex paint is NOT a hazardous waste (it is a water-based product), but is a liquid waste that must be properly disposed. Dispose of your latex paint by opening the cans and let dry or pour kitty litter or sand in a lined box and let dry. Place the can or boxes in the trash after the paint has hardened.

# NORTH CENTRAL SMALL FARM CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

PALMQUIST FARM, N5136 RIVER RD, BRANTWOOD WI

8:30 AM — 4:00 PM

HOSTED BY PRICE, RUSH, AND TAYLOR COUNTIES

People who operate small farms and those who would like to are invited to attend the first annual Northcentral Wisconsin Small Farms Conference on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at the Palmquist Farm in Brantwood. Small farms are the fastest growing segment of the agricultural economy in northern Wisconsin. This conference will help small farmers learn more about production practices, business management considerations, and marketing options.

### Agenda:

--Small Ruminant production issues, *Claire Mikolayunas, Extension Small Ruminant Specialist, University of WI-Madison*

--Beef Cow-calf production issues, *Amy Radunz, Beef Extension Specialist, University of WI-Madison*

--Small Farm business arrangements: what does your operation need for tax & insurance

liabilities?, *Attorney Phil Harris, Professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of WI-Madison*

--Keynote address **“Bigger isn’t necessary better; only better is better”**, Paul Dietmann, Deputy Secretary of Wisconsin, Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection and Director of the Wisconsin Farm Center

### Breakout sessions:

--Poultry production issues, *Ron Kean, Poultry Extension Specialist, University of WI-Madison*

--Small Farm’s Labor Issues, *Phil Harris*

### Marketing Panel Discussion:

Learn about and ask questions of these local producers who generate income from their small farms

- *Dave Bailey, Fresh to You Farm, Conrath, WI*
- *Tom Cogger, Maple Hill Farms,*

*Ashland, WI*

- *Kat Becker, Stoney Acres, Athens, WI*
- *Dan Kivela, Brantwood Bison, Brantwood, WI*

### **Tour of the Palmquist operation**

Registrations with payment are due to Price County UWEX by Friday, September 9, 2011.

Early bird registration: \$20 per person / \$35 per two people from same farm

After September 9: \$25 per person / \$45 per two people same farm

Send to:

UWEX Price County  
Room 240, Normal Bldg.  
104 S Eyder Ave  
Phillips WI 54555-1394

## National Farm Safety & Health Week



Remember safety every day!

National Farm Safety Week is  
September 18-24<sup>th</sup>

## RESISTANCE TO BT CORN BY FIELD POPULATIONS OF WESTERN CORN ROOTWORMS CONFIRMED IN IOWA



An Iowa State University team led by Aaron J. Gassmann has reported the development of resistance by a field population of western corn rootworms in northeastern Iowa. The journal article, "[Field-Evolved Resistance to Bt Maize by Western Corn Rootworm](#)," was published July 29 in *PLoS ONE* ([www.plosone.org](http://www.plosone.org); Vol. 6, Issue 7, pp 1-7). Decreased susceptibility to the Cry3Bb1 protein was reported for progeny whose parents had been collected in cornfields that had significant larval injury.

Producer interviews confirmed that Bt hybrids expressing the Cry3Bb1 protein had been used for 3

consecutive years in fields with excessive root pruning, the same fields where western corn rootworm adults were collected. Progeny obtained from corn rootworm adults collected in these problem fields remained susceptible to the Cry34/35Ab1 protein, suggesting an absence of cross-resistance. The authors offered this statement on the significance of their findings: *"This is the first report of field-evolved resistance to a Bt toxin by the western corn rootworm and by any species of Coleoptera. Insufficient planting of refuges and non-recessive inheritance of resistance may have contributed to resistance. These results suggest that improvements in resistance management and a more integrated approach to the use of Bt crops may be necessary."*

I commend these authors for this important scientific contribution to the literature. I also agree with them about the need for a more integrated approach to managing insect pests of corn. Our current

approach is insurance-based, fueled by high commodity prices. The results of the western corn rootworm survey described in my other article attest to the fact that we are applying enormous selection pressure to this insect species. The pressure comes in multiple forms: increasing use of Bt hybrids, neonicotinoid insecticidal seed treatments, and broadcast treatments to corn and soybean fields of pyrethroid insecticides that are frequently tank-mixed with fungicides.

Let's hope that cross-resistance does not surface among the various Cry proteins targeted against corn rootworms. If it does, the longevity of the pyramided Bt hybrids may be compromised. Let's also not forget that crop rotation no longer affords us a pest management alternative for the western corn rootworm in many areas of the north-central region.--Mike Gray

## SIGN UP SOONER, NOT LATER, FOR CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Many farmers don't realize that most of the USDA conservation programs are open for sign-up at any time, continuously, not just for a few weeks each year. Most of the programs offered by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are open year-round for applications, according to Jane Reigel, NRCS District Conservationist for Clark County.

"For example, you can make an appointment and sign-up for costsharing through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) at any time

throughout the year," says Reigel. Those applications are held until an annual ranking date is announced, then all applications that NRCS has received to date will be ranked for funding that year.

Frequently, the ranking dates are in the winter, and farmers rush to sign up when the ranking date is announced. However, this is Wisconsin and the snow cover makes it difficult for the NRCS staff to get a good look at the land and add all needed practices. Funding may not be available in the spring to add anything that was missed, but

that can be avoided by signing up earlier.

In 2011, Wisconsin farmers contracted for over \$17 million in conservation projects through EQIP. The Conservation Stewardship Program will pay over \$10 million this year to the 1500 participating CSP farmers.

Call now for an appointment to talk about conservation options for your farm. More information on NRCS programs is available at [www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov) under Programs.

## WEED OF THE MONTH: YELLOW NUTSEDEGE

RICHARD HALOPKA, CROPS &amp; SOILS AGENT

Yellow nutsedge is neither a grass nor a broadleaf weed, it's sedge. Remember sedges have edges; this will help identifying this grass-like perennial in the field. Nutsedge originated in Eurasia and it is not known how it arrived in the US. Nutsedge has a triangle shaped pale green leaf blade, a compound umbel, and numerous spiklets within the flower. Nutsedge will reproduce from seed, scaly rhizomes, and a nutlet that develops on the end of a rhizome. Nutsedge establishes in low areas of a field and tillage will help move the rhizomes and nutlets to other areas of the field.

Nutsedge has little value as livestock feed, but the leaf,

rhizome, and nutlet are an important food of waterfowl, muskrats, rodents, and other wildlife.

Nutsedge is very difficult to control because when pulling this weed the nutlet or rhizome may remain in the ground. Tillage will disrupt the plant, but may move rhizomes or nutlets to other areas of the field. Herbicides are limited because nutsedge is neither a grass or broadleaf. Read the herbicide label to determine if it will control nutsedge. Wet conditions help nutsedge thrive in crop fields.

## Reference:

Stubbendieck J., Friisoe G. Y., Bolick M. R.,  
Weeds of Nebraska and the Great Plains,  
Nebraska Department of Agriculture, 1994



### USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

Clark County Local Working  
Group Meeting

American Legion, Neillsville WI  
Thursday August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
10 AM-Noon

Local Working Groups provide recommendations on local Natural Resource priorities for conservation activities and programs.

Agenda and meeting minutes are available at the Neillsville USDA-NRCS office at 4 Boon Boulevard, Neillsville WI.

For further information, or if you have special needs such as an interpreter or written materials in an alternate format, contact District Conservationist Jane Reigel at 715-743-3164 ext 3 or [jane.reigel@wi.usda.gov](mailto:jane.reigel@wi.usda.gov)

### You are Invited!

***There will be a memorial dedication of the  
Granton School Forest and  
Outdoor Classroom***

***in honor of***

***Francis Steiner, Agriculture Educator and  
FFA Advisor***

***Saturday, September 10  
Granton School  
4:00 p.m.***

This will be part of the Granton Fall Festival. If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Steinbach 715-238-7175. The program will last about 45 minutes and will be held rain or shine.

## ALFALFA - GRASS MIXTURES IN DAIRY RATIONS

*Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>*

*Rice Farm - W11890 Maple Rd, Black River Falls*

*1:00 – 2:30 p.m.*

Last winter's dairy nutrition meeting focused on grass-legume seeding for dairy rations, establishing the right balance and impact on cow health and production, with Dan Undersander, UW Forage Agronomist.

This field day will continue this discussion at the Rice Farm, where

we will look at their interseeding of Italian Rye Grass, and the lessons learned. Dr. Undersander will be present to discuss varietal selection and agronomic considerations.

**Directions to the Rice Farm:**  
Head ~5 mi southwest of Black River Falls on Hwy 54. Turn right

on Maple Road (just before Town of Irving Cemetery), and arrive at the farm.

**For more information and to register contact:**

Jackson County Extension office  
(715) 284-4257

## FARMER TO FARMER BULLETIN BOARD



The Farmer to Farmer Corn and Forage Website is probably best thought of as an electronic neighborhood bulletin board which allows local farmers to get in touch with one another. The website facilitates the local marketing of feed commodities where livestock producers in need of high moisture corn, corn silage, hay, or straw can easily make contact with sellers that have feed commodities for sale. . The site developed and supported by UW-Extension can be found at. <http://farmertofarmer.uwex.edu>.

The Farmer to Farmer Corn and Forage List is free of charge for both buyers and sellers. Users can search for, or list for sale, high moisture corn, corn grain, haylage, hay or straw. Buyers can search for farmers in just one Wisconsin county or in any number of counties at once.

“This site has been an excellent way for buyers and sellers to get in -touch locally”, says Mike Ballweg, UW-Extension Crops & Soils Agent in Sheboygan County. Neighbors often within short distances have been able to buy and sell as a result of the website. Buyers can locate feed for their animals easily. Sellers can find buyers and save money in grain drying and marketing costs if they choose to sell their corn crop as high moisture corn or silage.

Buyers and sellers can access the website by going to: <http://farmertofarmer.uwex.edu>.

People who wish to use this service but do not have access to the Internet can get access and assistance at their county UW-Extension office.

For more information please contact: Richard Halopka, Clark County UW-Extension, Crops & Soils Agent, 715-743-5121.

## NORTH CENTRAL GRAZIERS PASTURE WALK

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>**

**Aaron and Edna Hoover Organic Dairy Farm**

**N13382 County Road E, Colby WI**

**11:00AM - 3:00 PM**

***Topics:** Sustainability through managed grazing and organic markets, soil and herd health.*

**Hosted by: Organic Valley Dairy Cooperative, Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D and Clark County UW-Extension.**

**Join us for a presentation on organic markets, soil and herd health, along with lunch sponsored by Organic Valley Dairy Cooperative 11:00am – 1:00pm. This will be followed by a pasture walk 1:00-3:00pm.**

Aaron and his family started utilizing the practice of managed grazing, starting in 1988. Over the course of the past 23 years, some of the pastures have never been tilled. The exceptions have been the areas where vegetables have been raised for retail sale, which over the last

several years has included the sale of certified organic produce. Through management skills honed from their years of experience along with attending many pasture walks and meetings over this time period, the Hoovers have kept these pastures producing at high levels despite their age. We'll look closely at the pasture management strategies incorporated by the Hoovers, along with their fertility program which focuses on balancing the soils nutrients and micro-nutrients. The proper balance of the nutrients of these soils, along with feeding such things as Kelp and Redmond Salt has helped to keep the dairy herd healthy and productive, according to Aaron. Grazing starts early in the season for the 30 head of mainly Holstein dairy cows with fall planted rye being grazed first before the established pastures are ready. The paddock

design was definitely set up for ease in rotating cattle to new areas of pasture. Water was shallow trenched in to different areas of the pastures to also add to the effectiveness of the system. Calving is spread out all year long to take advantage of the winter premiums being paid by their Cooperative.

**Please join us on this very informative walk!**

**Directions : From the intersection of Hwy's 29 and County Road E (just south of Curtiss in Clark County), take County Road E south 2 ¾ miles to the farm on the left or east side of the road. Watch for signs!**

**For more information or questions contact: Bob Brandt at Pri-Ru-Ta RC&D**

## WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES OF VOLUNTEER CORN IN SOYBEANS?

RICHARD HALOPKA, CROPS & SOILS AGENT

Volunteer corn is a common weed in soybean and defeats the purpose of crop rotation. The corn/soybean crop rotation has been popular for many years, but the development and popularity of Round-up resistant corn and soybeans has increased the volunteer corn population in soybeans.

What are the consequences of volunteer corn in soybeans?

- It is a weed and robs the soybean crop of water and nutrients, reducing grain yield and quality.
- Provides a host for corn disease and insects, thus reducing the benefit of crop rotation.

- BT volunteer corn has a reduced level of toxin, which may result in a resistant insect population.

As a manager, what can I do to reduce volunteer corn in soybeans?

- Inspect and service harvest equipment to reduce corn left in the field (this may also increase yields).
- Consider planting non-Round-up corn hybrids if planting Round-up ready soybeans.
- Cultivation or hand removal of volunteer plants (may not be practical with large acreages).
- Add a herbicide with Round-up to remove volunteer corn, it is important to read herbicide labels

when tank mixing.

Genetic modified crop technology is a valuable tool in a crop manager's toolbox. Crop management will allow these technologies to be effective for many years, but without management we may decrease the number of tools in our toolbox.

If you have questions related to resistance in GMO crops or questions related to crop management, please contact Clark County UW-Extension Crops & Soils Agent Richard Halopka, at 715-743-5121.

Reference:  
<http://bulletin.ipm.illinois.edu/article.php?id=1212>

## EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE LUNCHEON

Saturday, September 24th  
Munson Bridge Winery, Withee  
1:00—3:00 PM



*Honoring Clark County  
Outstanding Young Farmers and Century Farms*

This event is open to anyone interested in attending. If you would like to attend, the cost is \$10.00 per person and it covers the meal.

This event is made possible by support from United FCS and Northwestern Bank.

Please call the Clark County UW-Extension Office at 715-743-5121 by September 16th to make your reservation.



## HR FOR FARMERS SERIES

HOSTED BY CLARK AND TAYLOR COUNTY UW-EXTENSION

October 6<sup>th</sup> Mesquite Grill, Thorp

### **Setting up your farm as a positive work environment**

- What do your employees think of you?
- Effective leadership styles
- Defining employee roles

October 13<sup>th</sup> Allison's Steakhouse, Abbotsford

### **Employment Law for Farms**

- Legal issues with farm employees
- Managing employment taxes
- Considerations for managing immigrant labor

November 3<sup>rd</sup> Abbyland Truck Stop, Curtiss

### **Finding and keeping good employees**

- What is a good employee
- Advertising for success
- Compensation packages
- Productive communication

November 10<sup>th</sup> Meadowview Golf Course, Owen

### **Making good employees better**

- Training and orientation for farm employees
- Performance evaluation
- Conflict resolution

Cost is \$10.00 per meeting join us for one or all meetings

For more information or to register contact:  
Maria Bendixen, Dairy & Livestock Agent  
517 Court Street, Rm 104  
Neillsville WI 54456  
715-743-5121

Please pre-register one week in advance of class.



# Central Wisconsin Forage Council's Fall Field Day & Corn Silage Burndown

**Tuesday, September 13, 2011**  
Malm's Rolling Acres, Loyal WI • 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

- Features:** Educational Seminars  
Field Demonstrations  
Free Lunch  
NIR Machine from Rock River Lab  
Ride & Drive Event  
Rain or Shine Event

**Agenda:**

- 10:00 a.m. **Field Demonstrations**
- Corn Silage Harvesting
  - Hauling/ Storing Bagged Corn Silage
- 11:45 a.m. **Free Lunch**
- 12:30 p.m. **Selecting Corn Hybrids for Silage**  
Joe Lauer, UW Corn Specialist
- 1:00 p.m. **Plot Tour with seed reps**
- 1:45 p.m. **Equipment Review**

Bring in 3 stalks of corn to check whole plant moisture

**\*Please RSVP by Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> • 715.743.5121**

*Mark Your Calendars!*



## Seed Plot Participants and Event Sponsors

Croplan, DeKalb, Legacy, Mycogen, NK, Pioneer, Sabre, Prairie Estate

**Directions:**

From Loyal:

Cty Hwy K North to Maple Center Rd  
West on Maple Center Rd 1.7 miles  
Arrows will direct you to parking

From Hwy 29:

Cty Hwy P South will become Cty Hwy K  
West on Maple Center Rd 1.7 miles  
Arrows will direct you to parking

*Fall Field Day & Corn Silage Burndown Hosted by:*




*Thanks to our collaborators:*



Cooperative Extension  
&  
**Malm's Rolling Acres**

## ***Build a Rain Barrel Workshop***

Wednesday, August 24  
Greenwood Legion Hall

6:00-7:30 p.m.  
\$15.00 (Must Pre-Register)



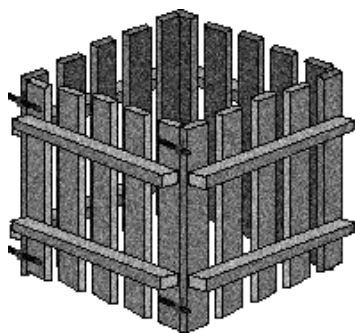
**Use a rain barrel, conserve water, reduce storm runoff, and save money!**

Participants will construct a rain barrel to take home and immediately use. All of the materials and 55 gallon barrel will be provided. Learn how to make a rain barrel, conserve water and save money!

Call 715-743-5121 for more information and to pre-register for this workshop. Pre-registration is required. Cost of the rain barrel workshop is \$20.

## ***Composting Workshops*** ***Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle***

**Use a compost bin — promote soil health and save money!**



Tuesday, August 23  
Greenwood Legion Hall  
&  
Tuesday, September 20  
Loyal Legion Hall

Both workshops will be held at 6-7:30 p.m.

Call 715-743-5121 for more information and to pre-register for this workshop.

Workshops are sponsored by:  
Clark County UW-Extension & Clark County Master Gardeners

# Extension Views Newsletter

An EEO/Affirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements. If you need an interpreter, materials in alternate formats or other accommodations to access this program, activity, or service, please contact the program coordinator at 715-743-5121 as soon as possible (10 days is reasonable) preceding the scheduled event so that proper arrangements can be made in a timely fashion.

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