EXTENSION
VIEWS
A Product of Extension Clark County

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Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
CLARK COUNTY

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Questions from My Desk

Richard Halopka, CCA
Senior Outreach Specialist UW-Madison Division of Extension
Clark County Soils and Crops Educator

Farmer's question: I was informed from a sales person that I should consider purchasing Pivot Bio to receive "free" nitrogen versus purchasing nitrogen at record prices, does it work?

First, if you purchase Pivot Bio the nitrogen will not be free. There is a cost to purchase the product. Now I think we need to consider the next question, is Pivot Bio economical in central Wisconsin? Many times people ask my opinion, however my opinion will be based on scientific research and if the product will be economical in the area you are growing the crop.

Pivot Bio is a buzz product this past fall and winter. The increased cost of fertilizer in general has many people looking for an alternative to commercial fertilizer. However, did you ask the correct question, is it economical?

Let us address the question on Pivot Bio. I don't know the cost per acre of the product, but have heard $15.00 to $20.00 for the product. Now do you need application equipment? If you don't need application equipment, you can save that cost.

Continued on page 2

The problem with round bales is livestock never get a square meal.

This newsletter is mailed to approximately 1,400 farmers and agriculture businesses in Central Wisconsin at a cost of .70 per newsletter. County budgets are tight and each department has been asked to reduce expenses. If you would like to view the Extension Views newsletter online versus receiving a paper copy please contact the UW-Extension Office at 715-743-5121 / mariah.stange@co.clark.wi.us. You can view the newsletter on our webpage at: https://clark.extension.wisc.edu/extension-views/ Thank you for considering this option!

Continued from page 1 "Questions"…

Dr. Trent Robert's from University of Arkansas did research on this product and to the products defense it may be a small sample of research. Now remember the weather conditions in Arkansas are much different from central Wisconsin. The early conclusion is results were variable and while some contribution of nitrogen to the corn crop can be contributed to Pivot Bio, it is variable and a limited amount.

Now let's look at economics. Currently nitrogen will cost in the neighborhood of $1.00 per pound/unit of nitrogen. If the cost of Pivot Bio is in the $20.00 neighborhood with variable results, which is a better management decision or investment, Pivot Bio or purchasing twenty pounds of nitrogen?

In addition, in central Wisconsin we have greater variability in weather than Arkansas.

If you have concerns with high fertilizer prices, the best option is to manage the nutrients you have available on your farm. This would include the livestock manure you apply to fields, the crop rotation contribution to crop yield, and your soils organic matter. Soil organic matter, provided you have good weather conditions during the growing season, the microbiology already present in your soil, will mineralize more nitrogen for your corn crop than the potential return from Pivot Bio, at no cost to you the farm manager.

With high fertilizer, prices there will be products promoted as a better alternative compared to conventional practices. Most of the products do work as companies and sales staff promote them, however you are the farm manager and profitability should be your only concern. So now the correct questions is will this product be economical and produce a profit in this growing season for corn production? From research, Pivot Bio has provided little potential economical reward with limited research in a climate/growing season much different that central Wisconsin.

If you have questions about crop production, calculating cost of inputs and alternative inputs please contact your local county Extension educator or myself at richard.halopka@wisc.edu .

Private Pesticide Applicator Training 2022 in Clark County

After almost two years of pandemic, we will have face to face trainings for private applicator training (PAT) in Clark County.

For 2022, manuals will cost $35.00 and the manuals can be picked up at our office or we can mail them to you after we receive payment of $45.00 ($35 for manual and $10 for mailing prep/postage).

It will be important in 2022 to register ahead of the trainings, as there is a large number of farmers that will need to renew their applicator certificate, as many were allowed to grandfather in in 2020-2021.

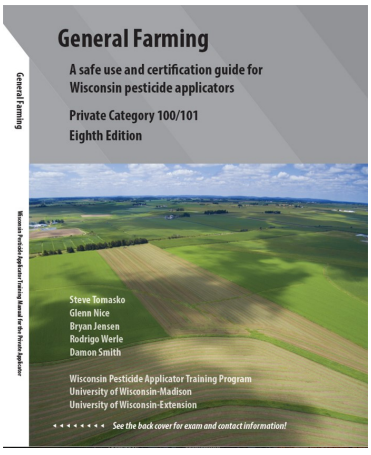
All trainings will begin promptly at 9:00 am; it is recommended you arrive early to allow training to start on time. New this year, the trainers are not allowed to bring in refreshments as we did in the past. If you would like to bring a snack or drink with you that would be fine. We will break for lunch around 12:00 pm and testing will be begin promptly at 1:00 pm.

Training will be held on the following dates and locations:

March 2, 2022
Abbotsford City Hall
203 N 1st St.
Abbotsford, WI 54405

March 4, 2022 FULL
Thorp Fire Hall
101 N Wilson St.
Thorp, WI 54771

March 10, 2022
Thorp Fire Hall
101 N Wilson St.
Thorp, WI 54771



March 11, 2022
Courthouse Auditorium
517 Court Street, Room 101
Neillsville, WI 54456

If you have any questions, want to reserve your spot in one of the above listed trainings, or need to buy a manual please call the Clark County Extension office at 715-743-5121.

DATE CHANGE!

Clark County Dairy Promotion Annual Meeting and Somatic Cell Count Awards March 24

The annual meeting for the
Clark County Dairy Promotion Committee
will be held on

Thursday, March 24
Rumors Supper Club - Loyal
12:30 p.m.

The Dairy Promotion Committee will be presenting Somatic Cell Count awards to all Clark County dairy producers with a SCC average of less than 125,000 for the year. There will also be a complimentary meal served to award recipients and their family members.

Producers with a 2021 SCC less than 125,000 must contact the Extension Office at 715-743-5121 by **March 1, 2022** so awards can be ordered and a headcount for the meal can be turned in. You will need to present proof of your 2021 SCC average by March 1. Send a copy of your 2021 SCC to:

Extension – Clark County Office
Attention: Mariah
517 Court Street, Room 104
Neillsville, WI 54456

If you would like to become a member of the Clark County Dairy Promotion Committee, you are invited to attend this meeting also but please be sure to contact the Extension – Clark County Office to be put on the meal list.

For more information about Clark County Dairy Promotion please contact Maryanne Olson at 715-743-3569.

FARM PROFITABILITY WITH COVER CROPS AND HEALTHY SOILS

FREE & OPEN TO ALL

MARCH 9 — C.A.M. Center
W8872 Pine Rd. Thorp, WI 54771

LOCAL EXPERTS WILL PRESENT ON:

Pursuing Continuous Living Cover in WI Dairy Systems
Jason Cavadini, Agronomist, Extension Marshfield Area Research Station

Soil Health to Profitability
Paul Dietmann, Compeer Financial

Managing Soil Health & Manure on the Farm
Jamie Patton, Outreach Specialist, Extension Nutrient & Pest Management

****A complimentary lunch will follow the presentations****

After lunch, attendees are invited to participate in a Q&A session with area farmers who will share their experiences in the field.

For meal count, please register by calling Lisa Ruth at 715-836-2918 or emailing lruth@wcwrpc.org

AGENDA

10:00 Introduction

James Arch, *County Conservationist, Clark County Land Conservation Department*

10:05 Overview of Regenerative Agriculture Techniques

Jason Cavadini, *Agronomist and Assistant Superintendent, UW–Madison Div. of Extension, Marshfield Area Research Station*

10:55 Soil Health to Profitability

Paul Dietmann, *Senior Lending Specialist, Compeer Financial*

11:45 Lunch

12:30 Managing Soil Health & Manure on the Farm

Jamie Patton, *Senior Outreach Specialist, UW-Madison Div. of Extension, Nutrient and Pest Management Program*

1:20 Panel Featuring Local Farmers

2:20 Wrap Up

What is a Fair Cropland Rent?

Richard Halopka, CCA Senior
Outreach Specialist Clark County Extension Crops & Soils Educator

It is a legitimate question and many people do not always like my first response, depends. I ask questions; was the rent paid last year? Where are you located in the county? What is the demand for cropland in your area? Are you happy with your current renter? Is your renter a good steward of your cropland? Who will pay for lime, if needed? How many years is the rental agreement? Remember, after I get off the phone the next call usually is the potential cropland renter with the same questions. Therefore, my story is generally the same and I have not mentioned a rental price.

National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) gather cropland rental rates and this is a good source to begin a conversation. Now, there will be an on the street rental rate and it may or may not be accurate and what is in that cropland rental rate? Another method is to know your market and then set a price. If you are happy with the relationship with your current renter, is it worth increasing or decreasing rent to continue working with this renter? Can the landowner and/or cropland renter think in a different manner? The landowner has an investment in land and that land has a monetary value. If you had money to invest in a low risk investment, what would you like for a minimum return on your investment? Now, look at the cropland as the landowner's investment and the cropland renter as the financial company paying on that investment.

From NASS; located at: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Wisconsin/Publications/Annual_Statistical_Bulletin/2019AgStats- .

This provides a value for cropland. Both parties can use the sale price as a range for negotiations for a rental price. If both parties agree that cropland is worth $3,000.00 (or a price that is current from land sales in the county) and a current desired rate of return is between 2% - 5%, this would give a range of $60.00 - $150.00 per acre rent. Remember there may be other considerations (lime, conservation practices, USDA payments, etc.) These numbers would provide a guideline in which both parties can negotiate a cropland rent price. Understand every situation will be different. So, who pays to apply lime to correct pH? If the landowner is paying for lime, then the rental price may be greater versus the cropland renter paying for the lime. This may result in a longer-term contract at a lower rate allowing the renter some reward for their purchased inputs.

Next, many only want a verbal agreement. Understand verbal agreements are only enforceable for one growing season. It is wise to write things down, even if it is just the renter and landowner writing down their thoughts, dating, and then signing a hand written notebook paper. Once written it eliminates any he/she said situations. To summarize, rental details must be written down, dated, and signed. Verbal agreements are enforceable for one growing season, and many times people forgot what was verbally agreed upon a year later. Rental rates are negotiations; there is no one price fits all. To determine rental rates knowing current land values is beneficial.

If you have questions on renting cropland please call 715-743-5121 or email richard.halopka@wisc.edu

Dairy Situation and Outlook, February 23, 2022
By Bob Cropp, Professor Emeritus
University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Milk prices strengthened last quarter of 2021 and continued into 2022 as the price of cheese, dry whey, butter and nonfat dry milk all increased. Class III was $17.83 in October, $18.03 in November, $18.36 in December, $20.38 in January and could be near $20.85 in February. Class IV was $17.4 in October, $18.79 in November, $19.88 in December, $23.09 in January and could be near $23.90 in February. Driving higher milk prices is a slowdown in milk production, modest increase in dairy product sales and record dairy exports.

In 2021 milk production was running well above a year ago with production up 2.8% January through July. But, by August production slowed down with last quarter of the year below year ago levels. Production continued below year ago levels in January 2022 being down 1.6%. Milk cow numbers after peaking in May 2021 had fallen 134,000 by December with January declining another 5,000. The increase in milk per cow was running well below normal trend being up just 0.3% August through December. Milk per cow was 0.7% lower January 2022 than a year ago. Last summer's drought tightening feed supplies and higher feed prices were the drivers of reduced cow numbers and smaller increase in milk per cow. Compared to January a year ago, of the 24 selected states 19 had lower milk production and 16 had lower milk per cow and 16 had fewer milk cows.

Compared to January a year ago of the five leading dairy states two had an increase in milk production, Idaho 0.6%, and Texas 3.5% with lower production of 1.9% in California, 0.6% in New York and 0.3% in Wisconsin. South Dakota had 18.3% more milk, the highest of all states. Milk production was down 12.1% in New Mexico, the most of all states. Some other states with less milk were Arizona, Florida, and Michigan all at 3.5%, Kansas 3.3%, Pennsylvania 2.9% and Indiana 2.8%

While beverage milk sales were about 4% lower in 2021 than the prior year commercial disappearance of butter was 2.4% higher and cheese 2.7% higher. Dairy exports set a new record high in 2021 being 10% higher than the prior year on a volume basis. All dairy products experienced increases over the prior year with nonfat dry milk/skim milk power up 10%, whey products up 10%, cheese up 14%, a record high, and butterfat up 121%. Improved world demand, U.S. dairy product prices competitive to other major exporters and lower milk production in other major exporters allowed U.S. to grow it dairy exports.

It looks like milk prices will continue well above 2021 and be the highest milk prices since record prices were set back in 2014. Milk production is not likely to increase much in 2022. Higher feed prices, labor shortages, higher other input costs, and fewer heifers as dairy replacements expected to calve within the next 12 months, 2.7% lower than a year ago, will all hinder increases in milk production. Construction cost is also much higher reducing the incentive to build new facilities for herd expansion. While milk prices are expected to be higher, higher feed costs will tighten margins over feed cost. The existing widespread drought conditions is a concern for crop conditions in 2022 that could result in higher feed prices for the second half of the year. In response to higher milk prices some dairy producers may reduce culling and feed for higher milk production per cow which could improve milk production by the second half of the year. USDA is forecasting just a 0.7% increase in 2022 milk production which is bullish for milk prices.

On the demand side modest growth in butter and cheese sales is expected. Hopefully the COVID virus will be less of an issue for the remainder of the year allowing restaurants to return to more normal operations improving food service sales. Some consumers may cut back on eating out as inflation reduces their spending power. Dairy exports are expected to experience some growth. However, increased exports will be challenging. The 2021 growth was driven by a rebound in exports to Mexico, a sharp increase in whey and milk powder exports to China and higher exports to Southeast Asia. Maintaining these markets and finding additional markets will be required to increase the volume of exports over the record 2021 exports. With higher feed costs, weather and environmental issues milk production in other major exporters is not expected to show much increase in 2022. And expected growth in world demand raising world prices leaves open the opportunity for U.S. to expand dairy exports. But higher U.S. dairy product prices will make U.S. products less competitive than 2021. Also, the relatively small increase in U.S. milk production limits its ability to increase in dairy product production for exports. We can also expect continued port congestion, shortages of shipping containers, trucking availability and other issues that challenge exporting.

Tighter dairy stocks will support higher milk prices. January 31st stocks of butter were 33.3% lower than a year ago. While total cheese stocks were 2.6% higher than a year ago this is a much smaller increase than all of 2021.

Even if domestic milk and dairy product sales turns out modest and dairy exports show no or small increase over 2021 the growth in milk production less than 1% will still support higher milk prices. Dairy futures currently are very bullish. Class III futures are $21 to $22 all year. Class IV futures are $23 to $24 until falling to $23 in May and $22 in October. The latest USDA forecast has Class III averaging $19.65 for the year compared to $17.08 in 2021 and Class IV averaging $20.90 compared to $16.09 in 2021. Milk prices could turn out higher or lower some months than these forecasted prices. Recent history tells us milk prices can change quickly with rather small changes in milk production, domestic sales or exports. Forecasting milk prices very far out is far from 100% certain. Dairy producers will continue to experience dairy price volatility and uncertainty and should consider using available price risk management tools.

Pricing Corn Silage

Matt Lippert, Clark/Wood Dairy Agent

Corn silage is a unique feed, combining high non-fiber carbohydrate (starch) and NDF. It does not feed strictly like a forage or a concentrate. Producers seeking to build high forage rations utilizing corn silage may still face challenges associated with heavy grain feeding. Corn silage is also unique when looking at the NDF fraction of the feed. If the product is separated into its two primary pools, grain, and the non-grain portion (leaves and stem). The non-grain portion is typically over 65% NDF. The NDF digestibility, measured as NDFd30 for corn silage harvested at 35% dry matter, half milk line kernel development will range from 50 – 70%, higher on average than for alfalfa-based hay or haylage. Unlike many high NDF feeds, it is still favorable for fiber digestibility. Compared to byproducts that may have similar NDFd, corn silage if processed correctly is an excellent effective fiber source.

Why price corn silage?

If it is grown to be sold to others, an agreed price naturally is needed. However, much corn silage remains on farm and never exchanges ownership. Calculating a value may be needed to derive a value on a balance sheet. The price assigned to the corn silage will be big factor in calculating how much it costs to feed a cow or replacement heifer. There are many options on how to price corn silage that may affect evaluation of the livestock, dairy, crop, or farm system. Market price and cost of production are likely choices, but since the feed is often not sold, "market price" is an elusive number. Cost of production also can be difficult to estimate since the cost is different for corn utilized as grain vs. corn silage.

How to price corn silage?

Cost of Production method (COP) : Cost of production is higher for corn silage than for corn used for grain. Harvest cost at comparable yield may run $120/acre greater for corn silage (2020 Custom Rate Guide, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection.) Corn silage at average yields will remove more P and K than for grain, 25 and 145 pounds P_2O_5 and K_2O respectively (Nutrient Management Fast Facts, Wisconsin NPM program) in 2021, a high fertilizer input year the value of extra removed nutrients exceeds $100/acre. Benefits include an earlier harvest window and no grain drying costs.

Cost of production will need to be recalculated if a crop is switched to silage from an intended grain use. After an accurate cost of production is estimated per acre, yield and margin required by the grower will complete the calculation of COP per ton. Shrink, and factors such as pricing as a standing crop, a delivered crop or a fermented crop also must be considered.

Value based on alternative feeds: FeedVal 7.0 https://dairymgt.info/tools.php (UW Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences) can account for variation in nutrient content, (starch, starch digestibility, NDF, NDFd, moisture.) Forage test results, a current survey of alternative feedstuffs, their analysis, and price, are needed for a meaningful result from FeedVal. FeedVal is especially important to estimate the value of corn silage hybrids not bred specifically for grain production. There are currently many hybrids on the market with claims of improved NDFd, Starch digestibility, and fermentation characteristics.

The negotiated difference: In many instances the COP plus margin price will be lower than the value derived from FeedVal, this is the range of negotiation for considering other factors, (delivered at harvest time, delivered continuously during the season, included in a completed TMR mix, etc.)

Sound complicated? Is there an easier method?

Thumb rules such as X factor times the current bushel price of corn (7-10), a percentage of the current price of hay (25%-33%), certainly are simpler. They may be a way to begin a conversation. At times when grain deviates from a normal range or forage is abundant or practically non-existant, these thumb rules fail. The value of the two pools that provide value in corn silage, NDF and starch, are not always well correlated, creating the need to consider both fractions. Again, the thumb rules don't account well for hybrids that have superior (or inferior) feeding characteristics such as starch digestibility or NDFd.

Another publication that discusses thumb rules for pricing corn silage is *"Buying and Selling Corn Silage, What's a Fair Price"* https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FHTV1KPNHOZmeFtCHuY5OYQwmvg6abre/view

CONSERVATION CORNER

Jim Arch, CCA
Clark County Land Conservationist

Hello from the Clark County Land Conservation Department.

Spring is around the corner believe or not. Now is the time to get your nutrient management plan (NMP) updated. This can be accomplished two ways; hiring someone that is a certified agronomist (CCA) or taking a DATCP approved NMP training course that is offered through the Land Conservation Department and UW-Extension. There are two types of these courses; one for computer users that use the SNAP-Plus software and one for the non-computer users. The computer user training is offered through the area tech schools and the other training we will be doing at the Hixon and Green Grove town halls in March. The only computer training left available to attend this year is in Wisconsin Rapids. If you are interested in the non-computer training, you need to contact either UW-Extension or Land Conservation Department ASAP!!! If you have already attended a training in the past and it has been four or more years, you will need to attend the refresher part of the course.

If you are required to do an NMP update, you need to have it done and in our office by April 1st or you could be subject to late fees. What we need from you or your agronomist is a completed and signed 2022 NMP 590 Checklist, the 2022 Spreading Plan Report, 2022 Nutrient Management Report, and the Field Data and 590 Assessment Report. If you prefer, you can save your SNAP-Plus file after you're done updating it and email it to james.arch@co.clark.wi.us or fred.subke@co.clark.wi.us or you can save it to a thumb drive and mail it to us or drop it off in office, along with 2022 NMP 590 Checklist, at 517 Court St, Rm 102 Neillsville, WI 54456. If you need help on how to do this call the Land Conservation Department at 715-743-5102 and we can walk you through it over the phone. If you do not use a computer, we have spreadsheets that we created and a blank checklist that we can print off and give to you to fill out.

So how do you know if you need to do an NMP? Simple, if any of the following apply to you, you will need to do an NMP:

- You have a manure storage that was constructed after May 18, 1999 ***OR***
- You have land or farmland in the Farmland Preservation Program ***OR***
- You have ever received cost sharing to do an NMP ***OR***
- You are a CAFO Farm ***OR***
- You are required by the DNR due to past issues with manure runoff occurring on your farm

Another thing that should be considered for doing an NMP is economics. Why would you want to be wasting money on fertilizer inputs when they are at or above historic highs? At the same token, when crops prices are at historic highs you don't want to be short changing your crop nutrient needs and having an NMP is one sure way to prevent that.

The Land Conservation Department is co-sponsoring a **Farm Profitably with Cover Crops and Healthy Soils** workshop at the Christian Aid Ministry Center (CAM) located east of Thorp, WI on March 9th from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM. If you cannot make that one, the Eau Claire County Land Conservation Department will also be co-sponsoring an almost identical event on March 7th at the Augusta Bridge Creek Fire Station from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM. Please contact Lisa Ruth at 715-836-2918 or email at lruth@wcwrpc.org if you are interested in going to either one. Attending either one of these events is free and includes lunch.

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If you are looking at doing any construction this coming season that requires a professional engineer, you should be talking to one now. Depending on your project, it can sometimes take weeks or months to get a design done; plus test pits are required and designing a manure storage cannot be started without test pits being done first. After the designing phase in the case of a manure storage, it will have to go through our department for approval and issuing a permit before any ground can be broken on construction. A NMP is also required before issuing a permit for a manure storage. In the case of cost sharing for a project that can depend on what the project is and funding source. If you are looking at a manure storage in the case of DNR Targeted Management Runoff Grants it can take two years, DNR Notice of Discharge Grants can take 3-6 months or longer. We also tell farmers to look at NRCS EQIP funding as another source because while the federal grants may pay more, they also can take much longer to be approved. Our local funding that we get from DATCP for projects like waterways, stream crossings, manure pit closures and well closures, etc. can sometimes only take a couple weeks to be approved but is subject to availability as we only get a set amount of funding every year; so it's first come first served.

Note: most grants will not pay out until the project is finished.

The Land Conservation Department will again be inspecting some of the county's 350+ remaining pre-ordinance manure storages out there. You will be receiving a letter before any inspection is performed. Just because we are inspecting your manure storage does not mean that we are going to make you close it. We just want to make sure the storage is sound and being maintained and that you do not have issues with high nitrate levels in your ground water. A pre-ordinance manure storage is a storage that was constructed prior to 1985. Most storages constructed prior to the first county manure storage ordinance were constructed without any soil investigation work or engineered design. Manure storages back then were put in by digging a hole, putting in a pump, a hopper and transfer pipe and you were good to go. Then some people ran into problems with high nitrates in their ground water, which is not healthy, especially for the unborn and newborn infants.

Hope you have an enjoyable and healthy rest of your winter and we look forward to working with you during the upcoming season.

On the Road NMP 2022

Dates & Locations: March 16th— Hixon Town Hall
March 23rd— Green Grove Town Hall

Time: 9:30 am—3:00 pm

Purpose: To educate farmers to become qualified to write DATCP NMP for their farm.

Refresher course is required every 4 years to submit your own plan.

This training will be hand written, but you can attend to become requalified for SNAP program.

Bring your soil samples and current plan if you have one (either written or e-version)

Please bring your own lunch and drinks—generally do a working lunch for time efficiency.

If interested in attending, please call Clark County Extension at 715-743-5121 or Clark County Land Conservation at 715-743-5102 to register.

Clark County 2020 Plat Books Are Still Available at:

Abby State Bank - Abbotsford
BP Amoco - Neillsville
Citizens State Bank - Loyal & Granton
Clark County Extension Office
Clark County Treasurer's Office
C Store - Granton
Forward Bank - Greenwood
Thorp Courier - Thorp
Hene Supply - Withee

UPCOMING WEBINARS

Farm Ready Research
Extension's agriculture winter webinar meeting series for farmers and ag professionals. To see the full list of topics and **to register visit http://extension.wisc.edu/agriculture/farm-ready-research/.** There is no charge to participate but pre-registration is required to allow access to each session.

Farm Ready Research webinars continue until May 2022.

March 1 | 1 pm – 2:30 pm
Ins and Outs of Cocktail Forage Mixes for Dairy Rations

March 4 | 11 am – 12 pm
Cultivating Your Farm's Future 2.0 – A Workbook for Farm Succession in Wisconsin

March 8 | 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm
SRW – Parasite Management for Small Ruminants in Grazing Systems

March 15 | 1 pm – 2:30 pm
Managing Heifer Maturity Pre & Post Breeding Matters

March 18 | 11 am – 12 pm
Who's the Boss? The Transfer of Management on the Farm

March 29 | 1 pm – 2:30 pm
The Randomness of Repro

April 1 | 11 am – 12 pm
Develop Your Farm Business Idea Using Lean Start-Up and Business Model Canvas

April 8 | 11 am – 12 pm
Strategic Thinking for the Farm Business: Putting Your Farm Values to Work

April 12 | 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm
SRW – Bridging the Gap Between Meat Goat Hobby and Commercial Meat Goat Business

April 22 | 11 am – 12 pm
Cultivating Personal Strength and Resilience: We-COPE for Farmers and Agriculture

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension Cattle Feeders Series has valuable and timely information for farmers finishing both dairy and beef steers/heifers, and allied industry representatives. The series will be conducted online via interactive Zoom meetings on March 1 and March 3 with different topics presented each night.

March 1 | 7:00 pm—8:30 pm
First Topic: Using Enogen Corn in Feedlot Rations
Second Topic: Market and Price Outlook for 2022

March 3 | 7:00 pm—8:30 pm
First Topic: Stockmanship: How Does Yours Affect Cattle Performance
Second Topic: Management Considerations for Cattle Feeders when Feed Prices are High

Pre-registration is required to get access to these programs and can be done for either one or both at least one day before each session at the following link: https://go.wisc.edu/ck47z6

University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension will be hosting a webinar series in March to present information on practices that can help optimize the value of dairy beef cross animals. There is no charge to participate in the webinar series, but registration is necessary and can be done at https://go.wisc.edu/676jgi

March 8 | 11 am—12 pm, 12:30 pm—1:30 pm
The first discussion will address selecting beef bulls to best compliment dairy cows to consistently produce cattle with desirable carcass and feedlot performance traits. The second discussion (which will also be translated in Spanish) will address how the quality of post-partum and early age calf care impact their health, growth, and performance for their entire lives.

March 22 | 11 am—12 pm, 12:30 pm—1:30 pm
The first discussion will address feeding and managing dairy beef cross cattle from 400 lbs to finish. The second discussion will present information on marketing options for dairy beef cross cattle.

Join Us For Another Year of Profitability-focused Discussions

The Central Wisconsin Farm Profitability Expo is a revival of the 'Healthy Soil, Healthy Water' workshops held in 2016 through 2018. The planning committee is made up of farmers, university staff, watershed group representatives, agency staff, and agricultural and natural resource specialists.

Our goal is to find the best knowledge out there, bring it back home, and make it applicable to farmers here in the central part of the state. We hope this ongoing event helps to address specific barriers Central Wisconsin farmers are experiencing when it comes to achieving financial stability and weather-resiliency through the adoption of Best Management Practices.

Best management practices like managed grazing, cover crops and no-till farming are tools farmers can use to take advantage of what nature has to offer and increases self-sufficiency on the farm. A resilient operation can withstand extreme weather events, market swings and minimize financial stress.

Join us for conversations on what it means to farm profitability amidst today's challenges. Engage in conversations with farmers using the latest Best Management Practices and hear their first-hand experiences. Hear agricultural specialists share tools and resources needed to break the cycle of conventional farming and transition to a truly resilient and profitable system.

Upcoming Speakers

March 9th @ 1:00 pm
Interseeding Companion Crops,
Matt & Craig Oehmichen, Shortlane Ag Supply

March 17th @ 1:00 pm
Panel Discussion—Diverse Managed Grazing Operations

March 22nd @ 10:00 am
Panel Discussion—Debunking the Myths of Cost-share Programs

March 24th @ 11:00 am
Breaking the Cycle: Climbing the Ladder of Regenerative Ag, Jason Cavadini, MARS

For more information or to register for an upcoming event: visit the Mid-State Event Landing page or visit the UW-Madison Extension, Wood County page

Low Interest Emergency Physical Loss Loans Available for Producers

Agricultural producers in Clark/Taylor County who lost property due to recent natural disasters are eligible for physical loss loans from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers these loans for losses caused by the high winds, thunderstorms, and tornadoes that occurred on December 15, 2021 through December 16, 2021.

FSA is offering these low-interest emergency loans to producers with a qualifying loss. Approval is limited to applicants who suffered severe physical losses only, including the loss of buildings and livestock. The deadline for producers in designated primary and contiguous counties to apply for loans for physical losses is October 11, 2022.

Physical loss loans can help producers repair or replace damaged or destroyed physical property essential to the success of the agricultural operation, including livestock losses. Examples of property commonly affected include essential farm buildings, fixtures to real estate, equipment, livestock, perennial crops, fruit and nut bearing trees, and harvested or stored crops and hay.

Please contact FSA for more information on loan eligibility and the application process. FSA office information is available at http://offices.usda.gov. Additional FSA disaster assistance program information is available at disaster.fsa.usda.gov

Dates to Remember

March 1, 2022: Livestock Indemnity Program deadline to submit application for payment for 2021 losses
March 11, 2022: General CRP Sign Up Deadline
March 15, 2022: ARC/PLC Program Sign Up Deadline
March 15, 2022: NAP Deadline for all Spring Seeded Annual Crops
March 25, 2022: Supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage & 2022 Dairy Margin Coverage program Deadline to apply

Robotic Meeting 2022

When: March 25, 2022 at 10:30 am –1:30 pm

Where: Boon Farms N3364 Hwy 73 Greenwood, WI 54437

Guest speaker will be Victor Cabrera from UW-Madison Animal and Dairy Sciences Department who will give a presentation on Data Management in Robotic Milking Systems.

There will be a light snack provided.

There is no fee for attending, but registration is required.

If interested in attending, please call Clark County Extension at 715-743-5121 by March 21st to register.

Professional Manure Applicator Training 2022

When: March 29, 2022 12:30 pm—3:30 pm

Where: Abbotsford City Hall 203 N 1st St, Abbotsford, WI 54405

Designed for employees of both for-hire manure applicators and farmers applying their own manure, this 3-hour training covers the basics of manure spill response, setbacks and regulations, neighbor relations and equipment/ manure gas safety.

For more information or to register, please call Clark County Extension office at 715-743-5121.

NCWCA Bull Breeding Soundness Evaluation

Saturday, May 7, 2022, beginning at 8 am at
Equity Stratford, 214910 State Highway 97
RSVP required by May 1 by calling Todd at
715-507-2400 to schedule your appointment:

- Leave your name, a phone number, and the number of bulls you are bringing. You will receive a call back with your appointment.
- Arrive on time for your appointment. For biosecurity and safety, remain in your truck until told by processing crew to do otherwise.

Cost: $35/bull/NCWCA member, $45/bull/non-NCWCA member
Checks payable to *NCWCA*. Same day membership available. Pour-on deworming and vaccinations also available.

Dairy and Beef bulls are welcome! Having pregnant cows is key to the cow/calf herd's bottom line. If your operation uses natural mating, then how well the bull performs is a major factor. One-third of all bulls do not successfully get cows pregnant. Sub-fertile bulls may be worth more at the market than remaining in your herd.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Make sure to listen to WCCN and WAXX for any cancellations

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
March 2, 2022 March 4, 2022 March 10, 2022 March 11, 2022	***P.A.T (Pesticide Applicator Training) In person training and testing***	Abbotsford City Hall Thorp Fire Hall Thorp Fire Hall Neillsville - Courthouse Auditorium	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
March 1—29, 2022	***Farm Ready Research Webinars***	See page 9 for more information	
March 1 & 3, 2022	***Cattle Feeders Webinars***	See page 9 for more information	
March 8 & 22, 2022	***Dairy Beef Cross Animals Webinars***	See page 9 for more information	
March 9, 2022	***Farming Profitably with Cover Crops & Healthy Soils***	C.A.M. Center W8872 Pine Rd. Thorp, WI	10:00 am—2:30 pm
March 9, 2022 March 17, 2022 March 22, 2022 March 24, 2022	***Central Wisconsin Farm Profitability Expo Learning Series***	Virtual	See page 10 for more information
March 16, 2022	***On the Road NMP***	Hixon Town Hall Withee, WI	9:30 am—3:00 pm
March 23, 2022	***On the Road NMP***	Green Grove Town Hall Owen, WI	9:30 am—3:00 pm
March 24, 2022	***Clark County Dairy Promotion Annual Meeting & Somatic Cell Count Awards***	Rumors Supper Club Loyal, WI	12:30 pm
March 25, 2022	***Robotic Meeting***	Greenwood, WI	10:30 am—1:30 pm
March 29, 2022	***Professional Manure Applicator Training***	Abbotsford City Hall Abbotsford, WI	12:30 pm—3:00 pm
April 1—22, 2022	***Farm Ready Research Webinars***	See page 9 for more information	
May 7, 2022	***NCWCA Bull Breeding Soundness Evaluation***	Stratford, WI	8:00 am
July 12-14, 2022	***Clark County Farm Technology Days***	Roehl Acres and Rustic Occasions Loyal, WI	

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