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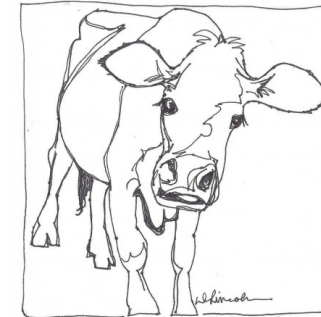
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Agriculture Newsletter

February 2014



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Hello! My name is Sarah Mills-Lloyd, and I am the new Oconto County UW-Extension Agriculture Agent. I began this role October 15th and am very excited to be a part of UW-Extension and the Oconto County community! Over the course of the last few months, I have had the opportunity to meet you at various events.

I grew up in western Wisconsin and graduated from Moorhead State University with degrees in Biology and Life Science Teaching in addition to the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a doctorate degree in Veterinary Medicine. Prior to my employment with UW-Extension, I was a large animal veterinarian for a local clinic which serviced the southern portion of Oconto County. So, I may not be a new face to some as I have had the privilege, as a veterinarian, to personally care for your animals.

If you have questions or concerns relating to dairy and livestock, or other animal related topics, please contact me at 920-834-6845. My e-mail address is sarah.mills-lloyd@co.oconto.wi.us. As your Agriculture Agent, I plan to continue the strong Extension foundation that was developed by Abby Huibregtse. I look forward to meeting many of you and am very excited to be a part of Oconto County!

Take care,

Sarah Mills-Lloyd

Agriculture Agent
Oconto County UW-Extension Office

If you will need any type of accommodation or assistance as you attend any UW-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.

NEWSLETTER TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 2/3	Events, Deadlines and Notes
Page 3	Calendar of Local & Regional Events
Inserts:	
Page A	2014 Annual CAFO Meeting Flier
Page B	Focus on Goats 2014: Profitability and Progress Flier
Page C/D	Grain Crops Production Clinic Flier
Page E	Eastern Milk Quality Meeting "Don't Pour Your Profits Down the Drain" Flier
Page F	Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit Flier
Page G	Nutrient Management for 2014 Crops Flier
Page H	Winning the Game Pre-Harvest Grain Marketing Flier
Page I/J	Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference Brochure
Page K/L	Dealing with Compromised Cattle Brochure
Page M/N	Cattle Feeder Workshop—Marion Brochure
Page O/P	Cattle Feeder Workshop—Waldo Brochure
Page Q/R	Wisconsin Dairy Well-Being Conference Brochure
Page S/T	Heart of the Farm Conference Brochure

Events, Deadlines and Notes

Annual CAFO Meeting

Tundra Lodge February 6thC, Crystal Falls February 7th

This is the annual update meeting for WPDES permitted farms and all the consultants that work with them. If your farm is on the verge of WPDES permit size or you are wondering about some of the logistics of post-permit management, you may want to consider attending. This year's focus topic is nutrient management plan implementation. Find info on the Oconto or Marinette website or call the county extension offices.

WI Corn/Soy Conference

February 6th & 7th

Held in Wisconsin Dells, this two-day event covers all things about corn & soybean production in WI. Go to <https://www.cornsoyexpo.org/> for information or to register.

Focus on Goats 2014: Profitability and Progress

February 7th & 8th

Wisconsin is a national leader in dairy goats. This two day conference will dairy goat farmers and processors to share ideas to further develop dairy goat products. There will be eight different breakout sessions during the conference. Some will discuss dairy goat selection, feed options, and goat health. Other topics include retrofitting a dairy barn, record keeping, business planning, and adding value to milk.

NE WI Grain Crops Clinic

February 10th

Held in two locations—Brillion and Seymour. Presentations will given by local and state extension specialists. Topics will range from subsurface tile drainage to the latest research in Wisconsin field crops disease management. See the attached brochure in the newsletter or either the Oconto or Marinette website for information and registration.

Dealing with Compromised Cattle

February 14th

The care and well-being of cattle in Wisconsin is important to consumers and farmers alike. Dairy producers, employees and service providers are responsible for the welfare of cattle under their care, and are committed to making sure all animals are treated humanely. Join us as we learn from university and industry experts in the proper handling of down cattle and resources available to ensure all individuals understand their role in your farm's animal well-being program.

Nutrient Management for 2014 Crops

February 20th

Led by Scott Reuss at the Lena Town Hall, the day will focus in practical, income-focused nutrient management for 2014 crops.

Value-Added Grant Deadline

February 24th

National program designed to help producers establish new product line and a few other focus points. Contact Scott for more information or assistance.

Cattle Feeder Clinics

February 25th

The annual Cattle Feeder Seminar series will provides educational outreach effort to all beef/ dairy beef producers, beef industry professionals and agriculture educators. This series will be hosted in two different locations on the same day. The program will begin in Marion, Wisconsin at 12:30pm and Waldo, Wisconsin at 5:30pm.

Winning the Game Pre-Harvest

February 28th

The companion to the Post-Harvest, this event held at the Lena Town Hall will focus on time lines, trends and patterns that should affect your pre-harvest marketing plans and its implementation.

Eastern Milk Quality Meeting

February 27th

Participate in this local meeting held in Oconto with university experts as we work together to improve milk quality and profitability on you farm.

WI Dairy Well-Being Conference

March 7th

This conference will help producers improve the care of their cattle and gain a better understanding of advocating animal well-being. Registration deadline is March 1st.

Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit

March 14th & 15th

Annual summit which features multiple topics: policy, social networking and animal management. The complete agenda can be found at <http://wfbf.com>, and the registration deadline is March 7th.

Heart of the Farm

March 21st

Come join us as we address the needs of farm women by providing education on pertinent topics, connecting you with agriculture resources and creating support networks. Registration deadline March 14th.

Master Gardner Volunteer Training

If you or anyone you know is interested in people and plants, you may want to consider becoming a Master Gardner Volunteer. UW-Extension is offering the MGVT Training in Marinette on Thursday evenings starting February 27th. Brochures are available at <http://www.marinette.uwex.edu> or by contacting Scott Reuss.

Spring Garden Conferences

The annual Northern Lights Master Gardner Volunteers' Spring Garden Conference will be held on Saturday, March 22 at UW-Marinette. The brochure will be available at <http://www.marinette.uwex.edu> or call Linda at the Marinette office.

The annual North Stars Garden Conference will be held in Florence on Saturday, April 26th. Contact Kathy in the Florence County UWEX office, 715-528-4480.

On-line Program for Beginning Farmers—MSU Extension

Many people starting new farm businesses or considering it are new to farming. Other have experience, but are getting started with a new agriculture enterprise. Either way, the 2014 MSU-Extension Beginning Farmer Webinar Series will provide convenient, on-line learning opportunities in a variety of topics for the beginner.

The series kicked-off with a set of weekly webinars running from January 20th through early April. Each program beings at 7 pm eastern time and will last 1-2 hours. Each webinar is a separate program with registration available at <http://msue.anr.msu.edu/> as the webinar date draws nearer. Click 'search all events' and scroll through the programs listed by date to find the webinar programs you are interested in. A \$10 fee is charged for each program, and a high-speed internet connection is required. You will receive the URL for each program when you register. Contact the Alger County MSU Extension office at 387-2530 or msue.alger@county.msu.edu for more information.

Topic	Date
Getting started with organic vegetable pest control	Wednesday, February 5
Getting started with selling to schools and hospitals	Monday, February 10
Getting started with selling at farms markets	Wednesday, February 19
Getting started with hops	Monday, February 24
Getting started with CSA (Community Supported Agriculture)	Monday, March 3
Getting started with organic field crops	Wednesday, March 12
Getting started with expanded vegetable production	Wednesday, March 19
Getting started with basic business records	Monday, March 24
Getting started with Hoophouses	Date to be announced

Calendar of Events

Remember you can find all this information and more detailed information on our websites—<http://marinette.uwex.edu> or <http://oconto.uwex.edu>.

February 5, 10, 19, 24	Michigan State Extension	February 27	Oconto	Eastern Milk Quality Meeting
February 3, 10, 17, 24 & March 3 (Evenings)	Marinette	February 27	Marinette	Master Gardner Training—Start of Classes
February 12 & 19 (Evenings)	Oconto Falls Library	February 28	Lena Town Hall	Winning the Game Pre-Harvest Grain Marketing Conference
February 6	Green Bay	March 7	Eau Claire	Wisconsin Dairy Well-Being Conference
February 7	New London	March 11	Escanaba, MI	Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference
February 7 & 8	UW-Platteville	March 14 & 15	Madison	Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit
February 10	Brillion/Seymour	March 21	Cecil	Heart of the Farm Conference
February 14	TBA	March 22	Marinette	Spring Garden Conference
February 20	Lena Town Hall			
February 25	Oconto Falls Library			
February 25	Marion (Daytime)			
February 25	Waldo (Evening)			