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Oconto County

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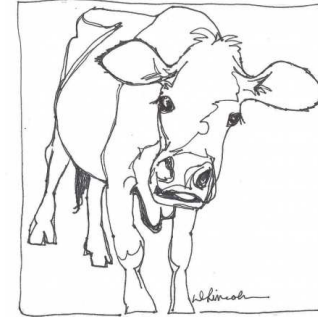
Oconto & Marinette County

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Agriculture Newsletter

October 2015



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

Autumn is an important and busy time of year as crops are being harvested and final preparations for winter on the farm are starting to take place. I can attest as I have many items on my 'summer to-do list' which need to be accomplished before the next season sets-in. However, nothing can quite compare to the fall we have in Wisconsin as the landscape gives way to the beauty of trees turning their glorious shades of color and the asters blooming along-side the roads.

Just as the landscape, the one constant we have in life is change. If you are a producer who uses medicated feed for prevention or treatment of disease in livestock, you should be aware of the updated Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD). The VFD is not new as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ruling was originally issued on December 8, 2000. The goals of the VFD are to:

- Promote judicious use of antibiotics
- Protect public health
- Help limit the development of antimicrobial resistance

The revisions made to the VFD on June 2, 2015 will take effect on October 1, 2015, and you may notice the implications of the revisions when trying to purchase medicated feed. Under the FDA revisions, all medically important antimicrobial medications will be used under appropriate veterinary supervision. The affected medically important antimicrobial products are :

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| • Penicillins | • Tetracyclines |
| • Cephalosporins | • Macrolides |
| • Quinolones | • Sulfas |
| • Fluoroquinolones | • Glycopeptides |

In order to have a valid VFD, you will need to work with your veterinarian with whom you have established a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship. This veterinarian will examine and diagnose the animal disease condition and determine if the use of a VFD is necessary. The veterinarian issued written VFD will be needed for anyone who would like to purchase feed containing ingredients which are medically important such as on the above list. Records will need to be maintained by the veterinarian, feed distributor/supplier and the producer.

This is a departure of previous practice and will take time to establish; however, the FDA has mandated the deadline for VFD compliance is December 2016. Now is the time to start the conversation with your veterinarian and feed distributor/supplier about the logistics of the VFD rule. This is only a brief synopsis of the VFD. If you have additional questions about this topic, feel free to contact me at the Oconto County UW-Extension office (920.834.6845).

Happy Harvest!

Sincerely,
Sarah Mills-Lloyd
Agriculture Agent—Specializing in Dairy and Livestock
Oconto County UW-Extension Office

NEWSLETTER TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 2	Events, Deadlines and Notes
Page 2	Calendar of Local & Regional Events
Page 3	Hay Price Report
Insert A	Lighting and Marking Requirements for Implements of Husbandry
Insert B	Dairy Situation and Outlook
Insert C	Wisconsin Farm Succession Professionals Network Meeting Flyer

Events, Deadlines and Notes

Farm Bill Dairy Margin Protection Program—Extended Deadline

The deadline to enroll for the dairy Margin Protection Program for coverage in 2016 has been extended until November 20, 2015. The voluntary program, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, provides financial assistance to participating farmers when the margin – the difference between the price of milk and feed costs – falls below the coverage level selected by the farmer. Producers that were enrolled in 2015 will need to make a coverage election for 2016 and pay the \$100 administration fee. Although any unpaid premium balances for 2015 must be paid in full by the enrollment deadline to remain eligible for higher coverage levels in 2016, premiums for 2016 are not due until September 1, 2016.

Scott Reuss will be hosting a Dairy Margin Protection Plan informational meeting the first week of November to help those who need to make protection coverage decisions. The time, date and location have not been arranged at the time of printing. If you have questions before this meeting, please feel free to contact Scott Reuss at the Marinette County UW-Extension Office 715.732.7510.

Halloween Family Fun Fest

The Halloween Family Fun Fest will be held on Saturday, October 17th from 2:30 to 6 pm at Harmony Arboretum, N3890 County E, Peshtigo, Wisconsin. There is no charge to attend. Please consider bringing a donation of canned goods that will be distributed to the local food pantries. (Please check expiration dates on canned items as only unexpired food can be donated.) As a 4-H club fundraiser, refreshments will be available for purchase.

Dress for the weather in your Halloween costumes and bring the family for hands-on crafts, nocturnal animals program, pumpkin decorating and more! All of Harmony will be spooked out for Halloween. Take part in the scavenger hunt, costume parade and play some fun

games while exploring Harmony. This event is geared for younger children, but everyone is welcome! For more information contact Marinette County UW-Extension 715-732-7510.

Wisconsin Farm Succession Professionals Network

The Wisconsin Farm Succession Professionals Network (WIFSPN) will again offer a networking meeting in Appleton on October 27th at The Grand Meridian, 2621 N. Oneida Street, from 1-5pm for professionals who find themselves addressing farm succession issues as they work with their clients. These meetings are an opportunity to learn more about farm succession issues and to network with other professionals in your geographic area.

Registration for this meeting is \$10/person, and can be completed online at <http://bit.ly/WIFSPN2015>. Online registration requires a credit card. If you would like to register by surface mail, you can send your registration fee (check payable to UW CDP) along with your name, organization, address, phone number and email and the location you wish to attend to: Joy Kirkpatrick UW CDP 204 Taylor Hall 427 Lorch St. Madison, WI 53706.

North American Dairy Sheep Symposium

The 21st Annual Dairy Sheep Association of North America (DSANA) Symposium will be held in Madison, Wisconsin on November 5-7, 2015 with a pre-symposium sheep milk cheese-making course on November 4, 2015. Important deadlines are fast approaching: October 3 for reduced rates on hotel reservations and October 16 for early symposium registration at a reduced rate.

Twelve presentations by 16 animal scientists, dairy sheep producers, veterinarians, and sheep milk cheese makers and marketers will be held on November 5-6 at the Pyle Center on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus. A sampling of topics and presenters are:

“Milking Machine Basics and Special Considerations for Small Ruminants” by Dr. Doug Reinemann, University of Wisconsin-Madison; “Impacts on Non-GMO Labeling on Artisan Cheese Production” by Cathy Strange, Global Cheese Buyer, Whole Foods Market, Austin, Texas; “Best Practices for Raising Lambs on Milk Replacer” by Dr. Tom Earlywine, Land O’Lakes, St. Paul, MN; and “Principles of Dairy Nutrition” by Dr. Michel Wattiaux, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Tour buses on Saturday, November 7 will take participants to Cedar Grove Cheese in Plain, Wisconsin operated by Master Cheesemaker, Bob Wills, and to Hidden Springs Creamery in Westby, Wisconsin where participants will visit the modern dairy sheep farm and artisan cheese plant operated by Dean and Brenda Jensen.

The pre-symposium sheep milk cheesemaking course will be offered on November 4 at the Center for Dairy Research on the UW-Madison campus for symposium participants and DSANA members for an extra fee.

The complete program and registration and hotel information can be accessed at the DSANA web site (www.dsana.org) or the University of Wisconsin-Madison Sheep and Goat Extension web site (<http://fyi.uwex.edu/wisheepandgoat/>) or by contacting Bill Halligan, DSANA Treasurer, P.O. Box 96, Bushnell, NE 69128 (308-235-5900, bill.halligan@hotmail.com) or Dave Thomas, UW-Madison, 1675 Observatory Dr., Madison, WI 53706 (608-263-4306, dlthomas@wisc.edu).

Wisconsin Farm Account and Record Book Are you looking for a way to track your farm operating expenses?

The Oconto County UW-Extension office has copies of the Wisconsin Farm Account and Record Book for sale. This written record book is for those who prefer to keep hand-written records.

The Wisconsin Farm Account and Record Book was reproduced from suggestions of The University of Wisconsin College or Agriculture following years of extension study. It is a complete, adequate bookkeeping system. The record book is designed to provide, if properly kept, all of the figures you will need to prepare your state and federal tax returns, plus a Profit and Loss statement of your year’s farm operation.

Please stop-in the Oconto County UW-Extension office located in room 3033 at the Oconto County Courthouse or remit payment of the cost of the book to Oconto County UW-Extension, 301 Washington Street, Oconto, WI 54153 to have your copy mailed to you. Cost of the each book is \$8.00.

Calendar of Events

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

Calendar of Events

October 17	Harmony Arboretum	Halloween Family Fun Fest
October 27	Appleton	WI Farm Succession Professional Networks Meeting
November 1		IoH Lighting and Marking Rules Effective
November 5-7	Madison	North American Dairy Sheep Symposium
November 20		DMPP Sign-Up Deadline

Weekly Hay Price Report as of September 11, 2015

Current hay demand and price reports can be found at <http://fyi.uwex.edu/forage/h-m-r/>

Upper Midwest Hay Price Summary by Quality Grade

Hay Grade	Bale type	Price (\$/ton)		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
Prime (> 151 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	\$215.00	\$170.00	\$250.00
	Large Square	\$195.00	\$150.00	\$240.00
	Large Round	\$136.00	\$133.00	\$140.00
Grade 1 (125 to 150 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	\$149.00	\$130.00	\$270.00
	Large Square	\$148.00	\$60.00	\$200.00
	Large Round	\$102.00	\$85.00	\$170.00
Grade 2 (103 to 124 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	\$108.00	\$80.00	\$135.00
	Large Square	\$99.00	\$50.00	\$160.00
	Large Round	\$82.00	\$50.00	\$104.00
Grade 3 (87 to 102 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	No reported sales		
	Large Square	\$60.00	\$15.00	\$90.00
	Large Round	\$37.00	\$15.00	\$45.00