



## Marinette County

Courthouse  
1926 Hall Avenue  
Marinette, WI 54143  
Phone: 715-732-7510

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.

Scott Reuss  
715-732-7510  
1-877-884-4408  
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*An EEO/Affirmative Action Employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements.*

## March, 2017 Newsletter

50 plus degrees in February is my definition of hellacious weather. I know it is nice for people, but it causes too many potential issues for plants, some wildlife, and barnyards. Of course, those issues only occur if we get adverse (in this case, read 'normal') weather during March and/or April, so there is a chance it won't hurt much.

Due to some various timing issues, there are a couple events that are being worked on for March or early April that I can't put in here, yet. I also expect to do a couple other fruit tree pruning workshops, probably in Florence Cty. and Keshena. Watch for program notices in the papers or on our website.

Scott Reuss

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### Calendar of Events (contact us if you want info on an event)

March 1	Gillett	10 am	Crop Insurance Workshop (pg. 5)
March 3	Stratford		WI Dairy & Beef Well-Being Conf.
March 7	Escanaba		Agriculture for Tomorrow Conf. (Pg. 2)
	Lena TH	10 am - 2 pm	Nutrient Management & other crop inputs Workshop (pg. 5)
	Clintonville		Cow College - Hoof Health (Shawano Cty UWEX)
March 8	Kimberly		Raising Quality Dairy Heifers (Pg. 4)
March 9	Gillett	6:30 pm	Securing a Farm Loan (pg. 6)
March 10-11	Madison		WI Ag Women's Summit
March 15	Green Bay		Point Beach Fallout event (pg. 3)
March 18	Harmony	10 a.m.	Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop (Pg 5)
March 21	Florence	6 pm	Master Gardener Volunteer Training begins - goes through June 6
March 22	Pulaski		Farm Succession/Estate Planning (pg. 8)
March 23	Oconto		Medicaid Eligibility & Recovery webinar
March 28-30	Oshkosh		WPS Farm Show
April 1	Marinette		Spring Garden Conference (pg. 5)
April 6	Cecil	6:30 pm	Loan opportunities through FSA (pg. 6)
April 12	????		A Day with Agricultural Engineers (pg. 5)
April 20	Coleman	7 pm	Meat Animal Quality Assurance (pg. 7)
May 6	Gillett	1 pm	Meat Animal Quality Assurance (pg. 7)

# Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference

Tuesday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Bay College, Escanaba, MI

9:15-9:45 (EST)	Registration & Educational Exhibits		
9:45-10:00	Opening Comments & Introductions: Warren Schauer, Retired Extension Educator MSUE		
10:10-11:05	A1 What's new in crop protection	A2 Dairy Calf Handling	A3 Veterans in Agriculture Network
11:15-12:10	B4 What's new in low-lignin alfalfa and other legume/grass forages	B5 On-farm evaluation passive immunity transfer in young calves	B6 Local Farmers: Branding and Direct Marketing
12:10-1:00	Lunch		
1:00-1:30	Visit Exhibits		
1:30-2:25	C7 Paper mill residuals on your farm?...things to consider	C8 Beef cattle handling equipment to make life easier	C9 Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
2:35-3:30	D-10 Managing crop nutrients with money in mind	D-11 Veterinarian Feed Directive	D-12 Getting to know local resources

## Registration Form

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost of attendance is \$25 pre-registration

(due by Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> - no phone registrations accepted)

After Feb. 24 the registration fee will be \$35 per person at the door

*Fee includes lunch and Materials*

Number of attendees \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_

For more information contact: Nikki (906) 387-2530, [msue.alger@county.msu.edu](mailto:msue.alger@county.msu.edu)

Please indicate by session number which four sessions you plan to attend:

A \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_

C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:  
MSU Extension

Send check and form to :  
MSUE Alger County  
E9526 Prospect St., Suite 1  
Munising, MI 49862

Receipts will be available at the door

To register on-line go to: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/2017AgforTomorrow/>

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientations, marital status, family status or veteran status. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling 906-387-2530 at least one week prior to the scheduled event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this date will be met when possible.

# Emergency Planning on the Farm

On the farm, the term ‘emergency planning’ seems right in line with planning anything, as we have to respond to mini-emergencies almost every day. However, there are some types of events that probably merit more thought than others, in regards to how a farm would handle the situation, or perhaps how an entire region would handle said situation.

I was recently invited to attend a regional emergency management exercise revolving around the response to a regional, long-term power outage. In getting ready to participate there, I did an informal survey of farms’ ability to deal with a lack of electricity. Not surprisingly, most dairy farms have some type of generator on the farm, but very, very few of those with whom I talked would be able to withstand more than a day or two of power outage if they also couldn’t get fuel delivered. In addition, what could be run with those generators was extremely limited. Most non-dairy farms have very limited generator capacity, if they have one.

During the course of the discussion at the exercise, it became apparent to me just how dependent on supplied power (both electricity and fuel) we are nowadays. I have to admit, I don’t think I want to ever experience a 10-day, or longer, power outage, as I’m not sure how people would react to it. I also have to admit that I’m not sure how well agriculture would react to it.

I think farms would get things figured out ahead of the general populace curve, but I cringe at what might happen in the interim. Timing within the year would also play a pretty significant role in the reactions, of course. Water, feed, and getting dairy cows milked would need to be the priorities, but many farms may have significant difficulty with even these activities, unfortunately.

I don’t want to ramble about this topic, so I will get to some things that I believe are worthwhile tasks for farms to accomplish in the vein of preparation for unexpected events:

- Physical map of the property that includes such things as chemical storage (pesticides, barn chemicals, whatever else); fuel storage; electrical centers; generators; emergency water options (if applicable); and other pertinent items.
- Lists of who to contact for what types of situations, including all applicable phone numbers,

and possibly their expected physical locations, in case phone service is out, as well.

- At least for the family members involved in the farm, have a plan thought out regarding who does what when something bad happens. Where do you meet? Who is in charge if the primary manager gets injured - does that answer change if it is short term vs. long term? Also, don’t be afraid to list different types of scenarios. How will the reactions differ according to different problems, such as:

- + Power outage
- + Long-term power outage (more than 24 hours)
- + Really long-term power outage (more than 72 hrs)
- + Tornado or significant storm damage
- + Flooding
- + Animal disease outbreak
- + Human health situation (Really, think about who does what if the family is involved in a car accident or something similar occurs.)
- + **Nuclear event occurs**

NO, I am not kidding with the last one, and that is how I will transition to the other event. Portions of Oconto and Marinette Counties are well within the potential path of fallout from an incident at the Point Beach nuclear power plant. The Radiological Emergency Preparedness section of WI Emergency Management is preparing for a full-scale ingestion exercise with Point Beach. As part of this process, workshops are being held to facilitate discussions between the state, counties, as well as local farmers, producers and processors regarding radiological emergency preparedness and what it means to be located within a 50-mile ingestion planning zone (IPZ) of a nuclear power plant.

A main focus of these workshops is the outdated language and guidance in our current livestock advisory, which we have learned are unrealistic and that we need to explore more realistic alternatives. The closest workshop will be held on March 15<sup>th</sup>, from 9am – 3:00pm at the Tundra Lodge Resort in Green Bay, WI. They really want producers to attend this meeting, so if you have any interest in doing so, please e-mail either Scott or Sarah (see title page for addresses) so that we can send you the link to the registration web page. I think it is very safe to say that the workshop will give you something to think about.

University of Wisconsin-Extension Dairy Team

# Raising Quality Dairy Heifers

Making Wisconsin's calf & heifer industry strong & competitive through university-based research and education

**Wednesday, March 8**

Liberty Hall Conference Center  
800 Eisenhower Drive, Kimberly

**Thursday, March 9**

UW-Extension Eau Claire County  
227 1st Street W., Altoona, WI

## Meeting Details

**Registration:** 9:30 am  
**Meeting:** 10 am to 3 pm

**Registration Fee:**  
\$35 per person early registration fee (includes lunch & materials)

\$10 additional fee will be charged after March 1<sup>st</sup>



- ♦ **Heifer Stocking Density and Performance**  
Wayne Coblenz, Research Agronomist/Dairy Scientist, USDA-ARS
- ♦ **Strategies to Control Dairy Heifer Costs**  
Matt Akins, Dairy Replacement Specialist, UW-Extension
- ♦ **Prevention & Control of Digital Dermatitis in Dairy Cattle-Part 1**  
Dörte Döpfer, Associate Professor, UW-School of Veterinary Medicine
- ♦ **Prevention & Control of Digital Dermatitis in Dairy Cattle-Part 2**  
Dörte Döpfer, Associate Professor, UW-School of Veterinary Medicine
- ♦ **To Beef or Not to Beef...That is the Question: A Look at Culling Heifers**  
Tina Kohlman, Dairy & Livestock Agent, UW-Extension Fond du Lac County
- ♦ **Reproductive Management Strategies for Dairy Heifers**  
Paul Fricke, Dairy Reproductive Specialist, UW-Extension

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## 2017 Raising Quality Dairy Heifers Meeting Registration

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (for a direct mailing in future years): \_\_\_\_\_

Registration: \_\_\_\_\_ People x \$35 per person (includes meals & materials) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Additional Walk-in/Late Fee after March 1<sup>st</sup> x \$10 per person** + \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total Enclosed:** = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check Payable & mail to:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Kimberly Location (March 8)**  
UW-Extension Fond du Lac Co  
400 University Drive, Room AE-227  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935  
920.929.3171

\_\_\_\_\_ **Eau Claire Location (March 9)**  
UW-Extension Eau Claire County  
227 1st Street W  
Altoona, WI 54720  
715.839.4712

**Or call:**

**Registration due Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> or a \$10 per person Late/Walk-in fee will be added**

# Local Events - Agriculture & Horticulture

## **A Day with BSE'ers (Ag Engineers)**

Sarah has put together a great opportunity to spend a day with some of the state specialists from Biological Systems' Engineering. Mark your calendars for April 12 and watch for more information in the next newsletter or listen to the March 15 Ag show on WOCO (8:07 to 9 a.m.). The four specialists currently planning on attending are: Becky Larson: Manure Handling and Digesters  
Brian Luck: Precision Agriculture  
Dave Kammel: Farmstead Planning  
Doug Reinemann: Milking Machines & Milking Mgmt.

Some readers may remember a similar day that was held at Romy's in about 1999, if not, please realize that this is a great opportunity to get some of the best minds in the state to think about your project(s) with you. Not all the details are worked out, but it will be April 12, so pencil it in and plan on attending.

## **A Day with BS (Nutrient Management) & a few other Crop Inputs**

**Lena Town Hall** (Jagiello & Goatsville)

Tuesday, March 7 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

\$10 registration - includes lunch

Everyone knows that producing crops profitably in 2017 is going to test our management abilities. There are ways to make good gambles on which inputs can be cut back a bit, while making sure that dollars are spent wisely on inputs that essentially always have a good return on investment.

This day is designed to serve as a sounding board for you to refine your plans and spend as little as you need to do to be able to have optimum yield potential but without maximum input costs. We will focus on proper nutrient management to begin the day, and will switch to such other things as seed treatments, foo foo dust (I meant to say 'highly valuable crop treatments and additives' there, I'm sure), pest management, and whatever else is on attendees' minds after that.

I can't guarantee anything about yield potential in 2017, as weather patterns play the biggest role there. However, I can guarantee that you will be able to utilize these topics of discussion to help you refine your crop management or, at least, make you think about and analyze the actual rate of return on investment that these various inputs may have on your farm in 2017.

Please register so that I have enough food for everyone, by e-mailing to [sreuss@marinettecounty.com](mailto:sreuss@marinettecounty.com) or by calling Marinette Cty. UWEX office at 715-732-7510.

## **Utilizing Crop Insurance Workshop**

**Wed., March 1 10 a.m. to Noon**

**Gillett Community Center - 200 East Main St.**

Farming is the ultimate risky business, but there are some tools that farms can use to help manage some of the risks they take. Crop insurance is one of these tools, but it is always a good idea to really think through your plans prior to signing spring-planted acres up by the March 15 deadline.

Marinette and Oconto County UW-Extension are sponsoring this workshop to help producers understand the various types of crop insurance, how it may work on their farm, and how insurance interacts with a farm's grain marketing and risk management plans. The program will last about 2 hours and is free for producers to attend. This non-partisan look at crop insurance programs will help producers understand how the different crop insurance products work, help them assess their coverage needs, and help them meet insurance requirements they may have in place from lenders.

There is no fee for this program, nor is pre-registration necessary. If you have any questions about this program, contact Scott.

## **Spring Garden Conference**

The annual Northern Lights Master Gardener Volunteer spring garden conference is being held on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at UW-Marinette. Cost to attend is \$40, which includes four educational sessions, full lunch buffet, and other displays and discussions. The brochure is available online at <http://marinette.uwex.edu> or at various local places, including UWEX offices.

## **Fruit Tree Pruning Hands-on Workshop**

**Harmony Arboretum** (½ mile S of 64 on Cty E)

Saturday, March 18 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We start off this event with a discussion of what happens within the tree when you make certain types of pruning cuts. Then, we review proper pruning and cut-making procedures. Finally, we go to the trees themselves to see the process first-hand and allow you to practice making the cuts and the decisions. \$5 registration fee. Pre-registration appreciated, but not required, by contacting Scott.



# Producer and Agribusiness Professionals Peer Group Upcoming Meetings

**February 16, 2017**

Oconto Falls Library  
251 N Main St, Oconto Falls, WI 54154  
Financial Business Planning  
Presenter: Brian Rieth, Peshtigo National Bank

**March 9, 2017**

Gillett Community Center  
200 E Main St, Gillett, WI 54124  
Securing a Farm Loan  
Presenter: Dan Kaufman, Greenstone Farm Credit Service

**April 6, 2017**

Green Valley Town Hall  
W1734 Hwy E, Cecil, WI 54111  
Loan Opportunities through FSA  
Presenter: Shawano-Menominee Farm Service Agency

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Meetings start at 6:30pm with a light supper and the presentation/discussion at 7:15pm.

Free to attend, pre-registration is requested by contacting Sarah Mills-Lloyd at 920-834-6845 or emailing to [sarah.millsllloyd@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:sarah.millsllloyd@ces.uwex.edu) for an accurate meal count and materials.

*Thank you to our meal sponsors!*



# Youth in Agriculture Opportunities

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## Meat Animal Quality Assurance

Any youth livestock exhibitor wishing to be eligible to sell in either Oconto or Marinette County Fairs' auctions need to be MAQA certified. Two training events are being held this year. If you cannot attend one of these, there may be other options available in neighboring counties - contact Sarah to find out about them.

The two local options are Thursday, April 20 at the Pound Town Hall from 7 to 8:30 p.m. or Saturday, May 6 at the Gillett Community Center from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required for either session, by calling the Oconto UWEX office at 920-834-6845.

## State Fair Dairy Promotion Board Scholarships Available

The Wisconsin State Fair Dairy Promotion Board is offering \$1,000 scholarships, for the 2017-18 school year, to third and fourth-year college students pursuing dairy-related or food science degrees at one of Wisconsin's four-year universities. Additional \$1,000 scholarships will be offered to high school seniors planning to pursue a dairy-related or food science degree at one of Wisconsin's four-year universities or students studying in a two-year, technical school program related to dairy or food science. Applicants will be evaluated on involvement and leadership in dairy-related activities, scholastic achievement, and career objectives. Finalists will be interviewed in mid-April, with the recipients to be recognized at the 2017 Wisconsin State Fair.

The application is available at <http://wistatefair.com/competitions/dairy-promo-board/>.

Application deadline is Friday, March 24. For more information, contact Katy Katzman at 262-903-6727 or [katzman@idcnet.com](mailto:katzman@idcnet.com).

## NCWCA Preview Show May 13, 2017

The North Central WI Cattlemen's Association invites the public and those raising beef or wanting to learn about beef production to the Beef Round-up on Saturday, May 13, 2017, at Brecke Rodeo Arena, W7939 Hwy 64, Medford, WI. The Round-up will be held from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm.

New this year, the NCWCA Beef Preview Show will be held in conjunction with the annual Round-up. All students within or out of Wisconsin planning for upcoming fairs and shows are invited to participate. The NCWCA Preview consists of Jackpot Showmanship for students ages 8 to 22, a Junior Market Steer Show, and an Open Heifer Show (for both youth and adults). \$200 grand champion steer and heifer and \$100 reserve grand champion steer and heifer are being awarded. The NCWCA Preview will be an excellent event for both the exhibitor and their animal(s) to gain experience for the 2017 fair and show season.

Gates to the NCWCA Preview will open at 7 am; check-in and weigh-in closes at 9:30 am. A Showmanship Clinic begins at 9 am. The Preview begins at approximately 12:30 pm, with Jackpot Showmanship immediately following the conclusion of the NCWCA Seed stock Sale.

Visit the NCWCA website, <http://ncwcattlemen.com> to read the rules for the NCWCA Preview and to download the entry form. To receive early-bird discounted rates, entry forms (one exhibitor per form) are due with payment by April 30, 2017, to the address listed on the form. Contact Sandy Stuttgart, Agriculture Educator, UW-Extension Taylor County at 715-748-3327 ext 1, for more information.

## Tractor Safety Training

Any youth that do not have their WI Driver's license need to be certified in the Tractor and Machinery Safety training to be able to operate farm tractors or machinery on public roadways. Those 12 and older can then work for their family's farms, while those 14 and older can work for other farms, as well. There are various options conducted each year by either NWTC or UW-Extension for youth to get certified. Planned 2017 training opportunities: NWTC - Oconto Falls - 6 Saturdays between March 25 and May 6 from 8:30 to 12:30, cost approx \$83, contact Mark Alden or register online. NWTC - Shawano - June 19-23, approx \$83, contact Mark Alden or register online.

UW-Extension - Planned for July 19, 21, 26, 28 in Coleman, cost \$35. Watch for registration information in June newsletter, or call Scott for more information.



# Ensuring a Farm Legacy

## FARM SUCCESSION & ESTATE PLANNING WORKSHOP

WITH SHORT PERSONAL CONSULTATIONS FOR PARTICIPATING FARMS

**Wednesday, March 22**

Premier Community Bank  
745 HWY 32, Pulaski, WI 54162

- **Estate Planning Tools & Medicaid**  
Learn methods of successful asset transfer to ensure a viable business for future generations  
George Twohig, Attorney, Twohig Rietbrock Schneider Halbach Law
- **Long Term Care**  
What if health care costs, cost you your farm? How will you pay for long term care when your health changes?  
Romeo Raabe, The Long Term Care Guy
- **A New Perspective of Securing Farm Loans**  
What does it take to secure a loan? What is financially required of the next generation?  
Lucas McMahon, Commercial/Ag Loan Officer, Premier Community Bank
- **UW-Extension Farm Meetings**  
What is in it for you to succeed? How can they work for you?  
Sarah Mills-Lloyd, Agriculture Agent, UW-Extension Oconto County
- **Personal Scheduled One-on-One Consultations with:**  
George Twohig, Romeo Raabe, Lucas McMahon

### Meeting Details:

Registration: 9:30 am  
Meeting: 10 am to 3 pm

### Registration Fee (Includes Meal & Materials):

\$25 per Person —OR— \$40 per Farm Operation  
**Registration Deadline: March 17th**

### Ensuring a

An EEO/AA employer, UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment & programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

### Farm Legacy Registration

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Business: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address (for a direct mailing in future years): \_\_\_\_\_  
Registration: \_\_\_\_\_ People x \$25 per person (includes meal & materials) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Farm Operation x \$40 (includes meal & materials) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Individuals Attending

Make check payable to **UW-Extension**

Mail to: UW-Extension Shawano County, Room 101 Courthouse, 311 N Main Street, Shawano, WI 54166

Or call: 715.526-6136



Photo courtesy of UW-Madison CAPS

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### **Sarah Mills-Lloyd**

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