



# Oconto & Marinette County Agriculture Newsletter

## From the Desk of Oconto County Agriculture Agent Sarah Mills-Lloyd

Time is precious and fleeting. We cannot predict our future, nor do we know what tomorrow will hold for each of us. Our lives can change at a moment's notice.

Just as every book has a beginning and end and flowers fade in time. After careful consideration and long deliberation, my last day as the University of Wisconsin-Extension Oconto County Agriculture Agent is August 6.

I would like to thank the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension for the support and opportunities provided me during the last five and a half years. I have truly enjoyed my tenure with the organization, the partnerships built, and the ability to serve the farmers and residents in Oconto and Marinette Counties.

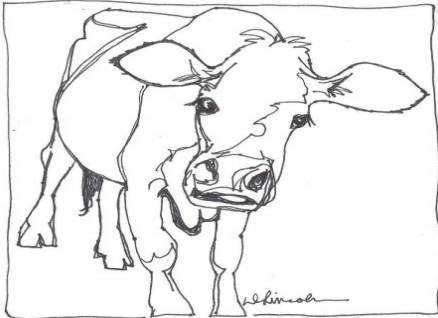
My mission in life, regardless of my employment position, has always been the same—to serve others. I have translated my education and professional experience into increased profitability for dairy farmers in Northeast Wisconsin, impactful and high-quality educational programs for the agriculture industry, and increased institutional knowledge for the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension. I am blessed that my career with Extension was a perfect blend between my education, experience, and life's mission.

We will not consider this a "goodbye", but rather "until we meet again" as I continue my career at Fox Valley Technical College as the Agribusiness and Science Technology instructor.

I am thankful for the privilege to extend the Wisconsin Idea through Extension to the residents of Oconto and Marinette Counties. I consider it a privilege and honor to serve such wonderful counties.

Until we meet again,  
Sarah

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

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## CALENDAR OF LOCAL & REGIONAL EVENTS

August 1-11	Milwaukee	Wisconsin State Fair
August 7	Marinette	Prairie Walk at Harmony Gardens
August 10	Gillett	Oconto County Fair—Horse Show
August 11	Gillett	Oconto County Fair—Small Pet and Caged Bird Show
August 12	Pulaski	Combine Cleaning Clinic
August 13	Greenleaf	Roadside Invasive Plant Management Workshop
August 15	Marinette	Composting at the Home a Landscape Level at Harmony Gardens
August 15-18	Oconto	Oconto County Fair
August 22-25	Wausaukee	Marinette County Fair
August 27	Stephenson	Upper Peninsula Corn Field Day by Michigan State Extension
September 5	Lena	Soil Health Field Day
September 5	Lena	Corn Silage Field Day
September 5	Marinette	Salsa Night at Harmony Gardens
September 10	Marinette	NRCS Local EQIP Workgroup Meeting

## HAY PRICE REPORT as of July 22, 2019

Currently hay demand and price reports can be found at: <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/forage/h-m-r/>

Hay Grade	Bale type	----- Price (\$/ton) -----		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
<b>Prime (&gt; 151 RFV/RFQ)</b>	Small Square	\$261.00	\$200.00	\$320.00
	Large Square	\$214.00	\$120.00	\$300.00
	Large Round	\$207.00	\$120.00	\$280.00
<b>Grade 1 (125 to 150 RFV/RFQ)</b>	Small Square	\$164.00	\$80.00	\$224.00
	Large Square	\$180.00	\$100.00	\$250.00
	Large Round	\$183.00	\$100.00	\$250.00
<b>Grade 2 (103 to 124 RFV/RFQ)</b>	Small Square	No Sales Reported		
	Large Square	\$149.00	\$80.00	\$220.00
	Large Round	\$113.00	\$53.00	\$175.00
<b>Grade 3 (87 to 102 RFV/RFQ)</b>	Small Square	No Reported Sales		
	Large Square	\$93.00	\$80.00	\$115.00
	Large Round	\$90.00	\$60.00	\$135.00

## EVENTS, DEADLINES AND NOTES

### Upcoming Horticulture Programs

All events are free, unless noted.

**Harmony Arboretum Programs:** The following programs are all held at the Harmony Arboretum, within the Demonstration Gardens. Programs are held rain or shine as there is a pavilion. The entrance to the demonstration garden is located ½ mile south of Hwy 64 on Marinette County Hwy E, which is 7 miles west of Marinette, or about 10 miles east of Hwy 141.

#### **Prairie Walk (August 7, 6:00-8:00 pm)**

Stroll the 17-acre prairie at Harmony Arboretum with local native plant enthusiasts. Spend an evening learning what constitutes a prairie and why people are creating or restoring them.

#### **Composting at the Home Landscape Level (August 15, 6:30-8:00 pm)**

Composting of plant materials is the most natural way to truly recycle the nutrients found in those plants. Extension staff and area Master Composters will share starting and managing compost piles and share great way to best utilize the end products.

#### **Salsa Night (September 5, 6:00-8:00 pm)**

This fun and flavorful event celebrates America's favorite condiment and the plants we grow from which it is made. Join us as we share safe salsa recipes, growing hints for the vegetables and herbs used in salsa, and a taste bud tantalizing sampling of great salsa recipes. Please consider bringing a batch of your own salsa, or some chips/crackers to share. ★

# LIMITING THE SPREAD OF WEED SEEDS **COMBINE CLEANING CLINIC**

Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Seed Concepts  
N3065 WI-32, Pulaski, WI



Event from 9:30–12:30 pm

**Weed seed production, viability and the spread of common weeds**

Waterhemp and giant ragweed studies results will also be presented

Dr. Rodrigo Werle, Extension Cropping Systems Weed Scientist and Nick Arneson, Outreach Specialist, Cropping Systems Weed Science Program, UW-Madison

**Combine cleaning demo**

Dan Smith, Southeast Regional Specialist, Nutrient and Pest Management Program, UW Madison

Lunch provided by  
Oconto and Marinette County  
Extension following the program

Seed Concepts, Inc.



If planning to attend, please register!  
Seed Concepts, Inc (920) 822-4548



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Marinette County Extension  
Nutrient and Pest Management Program  
Wisconsin Cropping Systems Weed Science



Michigan State University  
**AgBioResearch**  
 MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

**Upper Peninsula  
 Corn  
 Field Day**

**Tuesday, August 27th**

**10 a.m.– 1 p.m. CT**

**Pleasant View Farms**




Join MSU Extension, U of W Extension, local corn producers and seed dealers at Pleasant View Farms for a tour of our hybrid trial sponsored by Corn Marketing Program of MI and Project GREEN. This research project is a cooperation between the MI Corn Performance Program and the U of W Corn Hybrid Performance trial.

**Field day includes:**

- ◆ **Touring hybrids plots**
- ◆ **On-Farm Variety Selection**
- ◆ **Wildlife damage prevention**

- ⇒ Free event with lunch provided!
- ⇒ Please call 906-786-3032 ext 106 to register by Wednesday, August 21st.
- ⇒ Meet at the field: J 2nd Rd Stephenson, MI (between County Rd G 12 and Wery Rd.) look for signs
- ⇒ Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling 906-786-3032

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## Marinette County Fair

2019 Dates: August 22 - 25, 2019  
Wausauke, WI

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# Corn Silage Field Day

See September newsletter for final edition of this flyer, as there may be additions.

**Thursday, September 5**

**Noon to 2:45 pm**

**Alsteen Farms**

**9399 Belgian Road, Lena, WI**



**\$5 Registration Fee - includes lunch**

**Noon to 12:20 pm  
Registration and lunch**

**12:20 pm**

**Dr. Joe Lauer, UW–Madison Extension Corn Agronomist**

- Corn grain and silage yield responses to crop rotation
- New corn hybrid developments
- Season update, preparation for harvest

**1:30 pm**

**Scott Reuss, Marinette County Extension Agriculture Agent**

**Kimberly Kassube, Shawano County Extension Agriculture Agent**

- Chop length, processor settings, Inoculant considerations, harvest timing assistance in the area, 2019 silage from the cow's perspective ★
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# Soil Health Field Day

Thursday, September 5, 2019 - 9am-12pm  
Alsteen Farms - 9399 Belgian Rd., Lena, WI 54139



## Tentative Agenda

- 9 am: Welcome and Introduction (Jeff Maroszek—NRCS)
- 9:15 am—Cover Crop Plot Walkthrough (La Crosse Seed Representative)
- 9:45 am: Soil Pit and Root Investigation (Aaron Pape—NWTC)
- 10 am: Low Disturbance Manure Injector Demonstration (Waste Control Service, Inc)
- 10:30 am: Conservation Tillage and Planting Demonstration (Vanderloop, Reisterer's)
- 11 am: Precision Nutrient Management Technology (Alsteen Farms, Seed Concepts)
- 11:15 am: NRCS Rainfall Simulator Demonstration (Jeff Maroszek—NRCS)
- 11:30am : Water Quality and Fish Habitat in Little River Watershed (Andy Hudak—WI DNR)

**Learn about new technologies local farmers are using to increase profits and improve soil health!**

**FREE! No registration necessary.**

**For more info, contact the NRCS:  
(920) 829-5406 x3**



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## **New Industrial Hemp Website is Launched!**

Written by Liz Y Binversie, Brown County Extension Agriculture Educator

<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/hemp/>

The newly launched Wisconsin Industrial Hemp website is now up and running. This is your online destination for all things hemp including a statewide directory and other listings, archived presentations, and resources to help growers, processors, and those that support the industrial hemp industry including professional service providers, consultants, and other industry members.

In this website, you will find ways to make connections with growers, processors, and others to help you along the way. Check out the **Directory/Making Connections page**. There is an online directory, listing pages, and forms available to be added to these resources.

There is also a page dedicated to archived presentations on the **Webinars/Videos page**. If you miss the meeting or webinar, do not fret. You can watch in the comfort of your home or office at a time that's convenient for you. Pause and come back to the recording at any time. The recordings are there for you to watch at your own pace.

As news of upcoming events and programs becomes available, we will post that information on the **Calendar of Events page**. Registration and other information will also be found here. After the event is over, we will also be sure to include links to archived presentations and other resources for easy access later (it will also be cross posted on the Webinars/Videos page).

Looking for more information? Check out our **Resources page**.

Finally, if you have any questions, see our **Contact Us page** to get in touch with someone who can help get you pointed in the right direction.

Again, all of these resources are available on the website: <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/hemp/>. ★

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## **Tick Tracking**

Original Article from the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine On Call

In time for summer tick season, a new, free smartphone app is available to help better understand and limit people's exposure to disease-carrying ticks.

The Tick App (available at [thetickapp.org](http://thetickapp.org)) helps scientists track the threat of tick-borne disease by asking users to log daily entries of whether they encountered ticks or not and where. It also serves as a prevention tool, with information on how to prevent tick bites, identify and remove ticks, and a tick risk forecast for the user's location.

The app was developed by the Midwest Center of Excellence for Vector-Borne Disease—co-directed by Lyric Bartholomay, professor in the UW School of Veterinary Medicine—in collaboration with Northeast Center of Excellence and the Center for Health Enhancement Systems Studies. ★



## Dairy Situation and Outlook

July 22, 2019

*By Bob Cropp, Professor Emeritus*

University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Milk production running below a year ago, modest growth in dairy product sales, dairy exports while lower than a year are still supportive of milk prices and improved dairy stocks levels are all contributing to a continued improvement in milk prices. The July Class III price will be near \$17.40, up about \$3.50 from the \$13.89 low back in February. The Class IV which was \$15.48 back in January will be near \$16.90 in July. And milk prices should continue to improve during the remainder of the year.

USDA's estimated U.S. milk production for June 0.3% lower than a year ago. Milk cow numbers declined by 10,000 head May to June and were 91,000 head or 1.0% lower than a year ago. Milk per cow was 0.6% higher. In the West milk production was lower by 4.6% in Arizona and 2.8% in Mexico, but up by 1.2% in California, 2.0% in Idaho, 5.6% in Texas and 6.0% in Colorado. In the Northeast milk production was up 2.2% in Michigan and just 0.2% in New York, but down 6.5% in Pennsylvania and 4.6% in Ohio. In the Midwest milk production was up just 0.8% in Minnesota, and 0.9% in South Dakota, but down 0.5% for both Iowa and Wisconsin. In the Southeast production was down 3.0% in Florida and 8.1% in Virginia.

Fluid (beverage) milk sales continue to decline with January through May down 1.8% from a year ago. Butter and cheese sales continue to show growth. Domestic disappearance January through May was 4.3% higher than a year ago for butter and 1.4% higher for cheese.

The volume of dairy exports continues below a year ago. But, nearly all of the reduced volume came from lost sales to China. Sales to China of skim milk powder, cheese, butterfat, whey products and lactose were down 67% in May. Nevertheless, according to the US Dairy Export Council for the first five months of the year, overall volume of exports is on track for the third best year ever, only trailing the pace of 2018 and 2014. Compared to May a year ago exports were lower by 9% for nonfat dry milk/skim milk powder, 41% for butterfat, 29% for whey products and 14% for lactose, but up 11% for cheese. Cheese remains the bright spot for exports. While cheese to Mexico, the largest market was down 7%, exports to Southeast Asia, Japan and South Korea were well above a year ago. On a total solids basis May exports were equivalent to 14.7% of milk production.

The dairy stock situation continues to improve. Butter stocks as normal increased from May to June, but were 2.6% lower than a year ago. American cheese stocks declined from May to June and were 1.9% lower than a year ago. Other cheese stocks also declined from May to June, but were still 2.2% higher than a year ago. This resulted in total cheese stocks declining from May to June, but were just 0.5% lower than a year ago.

Milk production is likely to continue below a year ago for the remainder of the year. USDA is forecasting milk production for the year to be just 0.3% above a year ago. That is positive for improved milk prices. Butter and cheese sales should continue to show growth particularly during the fourth quarter for thanksgiving and the holidays. Cheese exports are forecasted to continue to run above year ago levels. U.S. eliminated its tariffs on aluminum and steel from Mexico and in turn Mexico eliminated its tariff on U.S. cheese which should be positive for exports by fourth quarter. These factors are bullish for milk prices. The Class III price should be in the mid to high \$17's for the remainder of the year with \$18 a real possibility fourth quarter. However, unless dry whey prices increase from its current \$0.3425 per pound, cheese needs to be about \$1.90 per pound to get to \$18. Currently cheddar barrels are \$1.7125 per pound and 40-pound blocks are \$1.7925 per pound. ★

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