



Waupaca County
Agriculture Update
Fall '07 - Winter '08

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Seasons Greetings!!

With another growing season in the books, the "meeting season" is just getting started. I encourage Ag producers and consultants to take full advantage of the educational opportunities in our area to help improve your business for 2008. Best wishes to you and your family during this holiday season.

**Farmers Health Coop
Informational Meetings
December 5 - Waupaca**

If you weren't able to attend this important informational meeting earlier this year, representatives from the new Farmers Health Cooperative of WI will again be holding informational meetings for area farmers and agribusinesses on Wednesday, December 5 at the Courthouse in Waupaca. The session will be repeated three times (10 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.). There is no cost or obligation to attend.

**Area Soil/Water & Nutrient
Mgmt Meeting - December 5**

Producers and agronomy professionals are invited to attend the area UWEX Soil & Water / Fertilizer meeting on December 5 at the Gathering in Shawano (10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) Topics include: soil compaction; nitrogen availability from manipulated manure; crop availability of phosphorus from manure; using the new lime recommendations; NM planning updates, and Q&A on soil fertility issues from 2007 growing season. Call the Shawano Co. UW-Extension office at 715-526-6136 to register (\$35/person. CEU credits available).

**Holstein Breeders Annual
Meeting, December 14**

The Waupaca / Waushara Holstein Breeders will hold their annual meeting on Friday, December 14 at the Hahn-A-Lula Resort & Ballroom located just off Co. Hwy. H south of Fremont. The program begins at 12 noon with dinner. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. For more information contact Al Cordes at 715-258-3201.

Cow College - Jan. 8, 15, 22

The annual Cow College program will again be offered in two locations this year... **10:00 a.m. in Weyauwega** (Larsen Coop feed mill); then **1:00 p.m. in Clintonville** (FVTC). Those from neighboring counties are also welcome to attend.

January 8th ...Dr. Randy Shaver will kick-off the series with a presentation on feeding high producing dairy cows. A panel of dairy producers will also discuss their feeding strategies and answer your questions about managing high producing cows. Panelists include: Bruce and Brenda Long (B-Long Holsteins), Bear Creek and Scott Seward (Seward's Folly Registered Holsteins), Waupaca and Ron and Nicolle Wussow of Cecil.

January 15th ...ever wonder how rising input costs affect the cost of dairy replacements? That's the question a group of UWEX County Agents set out to answer last summer working with over 40 dairy farms and custom heifer growers to document their current cost of production. A summary of the finds, including cost per head per day will be presented.

The second sessions will also review results of a year-long crossing breeding study at Tauchen's Harmony Valley Farm near Bonduel including milk production, feed efficiency, reproduction, and economic performance of crossbreds (Holstein-Jerseys) compared to Holsteins.

January 22nd ... the annual dairy farm tour will feature farms in the Shawano/Oconto County area (locations, directions and times will be provided during the classroom sessions). Cost is \$5/session or \$10 for all three days. Register before the end of December if you plan to attend (flier enclosed).

Pesticide Applicator Training

Classes for field and vegetable crops will be held on Tuesday, February 5 at Manawa City Hall; Wednesday, February 13 at Crystal Falls in New London, and Thursday, March 6 at the Courthouse

in Waupaca. Cost is \$30/person when you register in person at the UWEX office or \$35 if you register by mail. Reminders will be sent to those who need recertification in 2008.

Working on Wellness

Have you had your free health risk assessment yet? More than 25 farm families have taken advantage of this unique opportunity and you can too. The purpose of this project is to help address the challenges facing uninsured or underinsured farm families and other self-employed business owners in Waupaca County. UW-Extension is partnering with local health providers to provide this **free health assessment** (especially for farmers and their family members). Assessments include lab tests (cholesterol and blood sugar), blood pressure, tetanus shots, hearing and eye screenings and body mass index measurements, plus information on nutrition and health resources. The assessment is confidential and takes place in your home. If health problems are found, Shirley Yaeger, RN and local project coordinator, will help you evaluate your health risk factors and develop an individual prevention plan. For more information, call Shirley at 715-258-6402.

WI Fertilizer & Aglime Conference - January 15-17

The 2008 WI Fertilizer, Aglime & Pest Management Conference and Tradeshow will be held on January 15, 16, & 17 at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison. This is the Midwest's premier crop production industry event with nearly 100 educational sessions dealing with a variety of agricultural issues, technology, crop and pest management, including a trade show with over 100 exhibitors. The conference is co-sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Extension, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Wisconsin Crop Production Association (formerly Wisconsin Fertilizer and Chemical Association), and the Wisconsin Aglime Association.

2008 Dairy Market Outlook

Dr. Bob Cropp, UWEX Dairy Marketing Specialist

With the higher milk prices, milk cow numbers will likely stay above year ago levels into 2008. Milk per cow is likely to continue to increase around 1.5% or more. While corn prices may stay below year ago levels, much higher soybean prices and hay prices will keep feed costs high and this could dampen increased milk production this winter. For the U.S., alfalfa hay prices for September were 21.6% higher than a year ago with California experiencing a 44.4% price increase. A combination of slower milk production gains and dairy product sales will likely lead to lower milk prices, but yet prices will stay relatively high historically.

By December, Class III may fall to around \$17.00 or even a little below. For 2008, Class III will continue to fall during the first half of the year, but may stay above \$15.00. For all of 2007, the Class III price will average around \$17.60, breaking the previous record of \$15.39 set in 2004. The average All Milk Price will be near \$19.00, also breaking a previous record of \$16.05 set in 2004.

2008 UWEX Agronomy Update - January 9

The 2008 UWEX Agronomy Update Meeting will be held January 9th at Liberty Hall in Kimberly. Topics include: using the Bt-CR transgene on the farm; Continuous Corn or Rotate in 2008? Will foliar fungicides become routine with new economics for corn? Alfalfa seeding year stress and long-term yield? RFV vs. RFQ; Selecting grass varieties; Fungicides for soybeans? Soybean variety selection in a bio-fuels era; and, management strategies to maximize wheat yield. Contact Outagamie Co. UWEX (920-832-5119) to register.

Note...the 2007 UW Corn Hybrid Trials will be available on-line the last Monday in November at:

<http://corn.agronomy.wisc.edu/HT/2007/Text.htm>

2008 Nutrient Management: Are You Ready?

by Kevin Jareck, Outagamie Co. UWEX Crops Agent

There are two common questions related to the approaching deadlines concerning Nutrient Management Planning...1) When is a Nutrient Management Plan required? and 2) What are the manure application restrictions in the 590 standard?

The information below is taken from Frequently Asked Questions New Nutrient Management Rule <http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/regulation/pdf/FrequentlyAskedQA021607.pdf>

Nutrient management planning enforcement can take effect everywhere in Wisconsin after January 1, 2008. However, nutrient management planning enforcement is limited by the availability of cost-share funds and governmental regulation at the state and local levels. The cost-share offer must cover at least 70% of the farmer's annual cost to implement nutrient management (90% if there is an economic hardship). The farmer may accept an alternative flat payment of \$7 per acre per year for a four year period (\$28/acre total). Additional cost sharing is not required by a local government for farmers to continue this practice.

When is a nutrient management plan required? Under DNR and DATCP rules, all farmers who mechanically apply manure or commercial fertilizer to cropland (not just livestock operators) must have a nutrient management plan. Nutrients include nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium from manure, legumes, organic byproducts, and commercial fertilizer. Nutrient applications follow soil test recommendations minus credits from nutrient sources. A nutrient management plan is required when:

- A producer voluntarily accepts, or is offered, government cost-share dollars for nutrient management. State law makes enforcement contingent on an offer of cost sharing for this item only.

- A producer voluntarily accepts, or is offered, government costshare dollars for the installation of manure storage.
- A producer voluntarily continues participation in the farmland preservation program (FPP).
- A producer is regulated under a county manure storage or livestock siting ordinance.
- A producer is regulated under a DNR Wisconsin pollution discharge elimination system permit (WPDES).

What are the manure application restrictions in the 590 standard?

- No nutrient applications within waterways, non-harvested areas, sinkholes, or nonmetallic mines.
- No nutrient applications within 200 feet upslope of groundwater conduits such as sinkholes, fractured bedrock, tile inlets, non-metallic mines or wells unless incorporated into the soil within 72 hours (except for manure from grazing animals).
- No mechanical manure applications within 50 feet of drinking water wells.
- On frozen or snow covered soils do not apply manure on slopes greater than 9% (12% for contour farming).
- No mechanical manure applications on frozen or snow covered soils within 1000' of lakes & 300' of perennial streams. Topographic maps can be found at: <http://www.snapplus.net/webview.links.php>
- On frozen or snow covered soils do not apply manure in excess of 7,000 gallons per acre or the P removal of the next crop, whichever is less.
- Manure applications must comply with supplementary local winter spreading restrictions, if any, spelled out in an individual farm conservation plan agreed upon between the farmer and the county land conservation committee.
- No nutrient applications on fields eroding at rates that exceed tolerable soil loss (T).
- On frozen or snow covered soils do not apply commercial fertilizer except on grass pastures and winter grains.
- On soils likely to leach nitrate nitrogen listed in the WI Conservation Planning Technical Note WI-1, and areas within 1000' of a municipal well, apply most of the N in the spring.

Low Interest Loans Available from FSA

The Farm Service Agency (FSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, makes and guarantees loans to family farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland and finance agricultural production. Farmers may apply for direct loans at FSA local offices or USDA service centers.

Loans can be made for real estate and/or operating loan purposes at a low fixed interest rate. Maximum loan amounts are \$200,000 for real estate (up to 40 year term) and \$200,000 for operating expenses (up to 7 year term). Beginning farmer programs are also available. Contact your local Farm Service Agency for additional information (715) 524-4814.

Land Rent Survey

A question that comes up an awful lot these days is, "What's crop land renting for in your area?" Stronger grain markets have many land owners and farm operators talking or thinking about rental rates.

To help gain a better understanding of the range of rental rates throughout Waupaca County, a voluntary survey developed by Waupaca County UW-Extension is being distributed at the FSA office this winter (no names required - this survey is completely confidential). Rental rates will then be summarized by township for bare crop land, as well as standing hay, with results available through the UW-Extension office later this winter.

Copies of the land rent survey will also be distributed at various farm meetings this winter, so please take a few minutes when you get the opportunity and share information about crop land rental rates in your area. A copy of the survey is included on the next page. You can also fill it out at home and drop it off at either the UWEX or FSA office, or mail it back to: Greg Blonde, Waupaca Co. UWEX, 811 Harding St., Waupaca WI 54981. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Waupaca County Land Rent Survey 2007-2008

Please complete the following information if you rent land in Waupaca County. This is completely confidential, no names required. List all contracts that differ in price or location separately. Any questions, contact Greg Blonde, Waupaca Co. UW-Extension at 715-258-6230.

Bare Land:

<u>Township</u>	<u>Acres Rented</u>	<u>Total \$\$ Paid or \$ Per Acre</u>	<u>2007 or 2008</u>	<u>Land in FSA/ USDA Program?</u>	
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	yes	no
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	yes	no
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	yes	no
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	yes	no
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	yes	no
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	yes	no
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	yes	no
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	yes	no

Standing Hay (please note if not alfalfa):

<u>Township</u>	<u>Acres Rented</u>	<u>Total \$\$ Paid or \$ Per Acre</u>	<u>2007 or 2008</u>	<u>Per cut or Per year?</u>
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	<input type="checkbox"/> per cut <input type="checkbox"/> per year
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	<input type="checkbox"/> per cut <input type="checkbox"/> per year
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	<input type="checkbox"/> per cut <input type="checkbox"/> per year
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	<input type="checkbox"/> per cut <input type="checkbox"/> per year
_____	_____	\$_____	07 or 08	<input type="checkbox"/> per cut <input type="checkbox"/> per year

Thank you!

UW Extension Cow College 2008

10:00 am Larsen Co-op Feed Center, Weyauwega

1:00 pm FVTC Regional Center, Clintonville

Tuesday, January 8... **“Feeding High Producing Cows”**

**Dr. Randy Shaver, Extension Dairy Nutrition Specialist, UW-Madison
& Local Dairy Producer Panel**

Dr. Randy Shaver will kick-off this years Cow College program with a presentation on feeding high producing dairy cows. As one of the top Extension Dairy specialists in the country, Dr. Shaver will share the latest research on feeding and nutrition to help you achieve and maintain top production.

Also, hear from some of the best dairy managers in our area as they explain their feeding strategies and answer your questions about managing high producing cows. Panelists include: Bruce and Brenda Long (B-Long Holsteins), Bear Creek and Scott Seward (Seward’s Folly Registered Holsteins), Waupaca and Ron and Nicolle Wussow of Cecil.

Tuesday, January 15... **“The Current Cost of Raising Dairy Replacements”**

**Abby Huibregtse, Oconto Co. UW-Extension Dairy & Livestock Agent
& Tom Anderson, Shawano County Agriculture Agent**

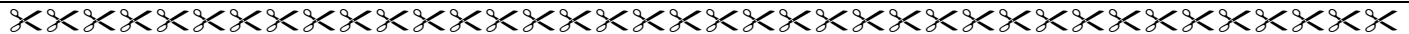
Ever wonder how rising input costs affect the cost of dairy replacements? That’s the question a group of UWEX County Agents set out to answer last summer working with over 40 dairy farms and custom heifer growers to document their current cost of production. Abby Huibregtse, Oconto Co. UW-Extension Dairy & Livestock Agent, will share a summary of their findings.

Tom Anderson, Shawano County Agriculture Agent, will also review results of his year-long crossing breeding study at Tauchen’s Harmony Valley Farm near Bonduel. The study looked at milk production, feed efficiency, reproduction, and economic performance of crossbreds (Holstein-Jerseys) compared to Holsteins.

Tuesday, January 22... **Dairy Farm Tour**

TBA...location & directions will be provided at January 9 & 16 sessions.

If you need an accommodation for a disability to fully participate in this program, please contact your County Extension Office as early as possible (10 working days is reasonable) before the program. “An EEO/Affirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements.”



Registration Form

...please identify the dates and location you plan to attend:

January 8 **January 15** **January 22 (Tour)**
 Weyauwega Weyauwega
 Clintonville Clintonville

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Cost is \$5.00/day or \$10.00 total for all three = \$ _____ (Call or send check to UW-Extension by Dec. 28)

**Waupaca County UWEX
Courthouse 811 Harding St
Waupaca WI 54981
715 258-6230**

**Shawano County UWEX
Courthouse, Rm 101
Shawano WI 54166
715 526-6136**

**Outagamie County UWEX
3365 W Brewster Street
Appleton WI 54914
920 832-5119**

Fall 2007 Dairy Facility Cost Estimates



Earlier this fall, Dave Kammel (Extension Ag Engineer) and Arlin Brannstrom developed cost estimates for various types of dairy facilities.

Keep in mind these are estimates and should not be used as substitutes for your own figures. Keep in mind their estimates include excavation, frame, curtains, concrete, stalls, gates, waters, free-stall beds, overhead doors, reception pit, electrical and plumbing.

Free Stall Barns

2 Row = \$2,150 / stall (\$18.86 / sq.ft.)

3 Row = \$1,460 / stall (\$17.57 / sq.ft.)

4 Row = \$1,880 / stall (\$18.52 / sq.ft.)

6 Row = \$1,560 / stall (\$19.04 / sq.ft.)

Compost Bedded Barn = \$20.46 / sq.ft.

Milking Center/Parlor = \$43.43 / sq.ft.
(parlor, holding pen & office area)

Parlor stalls & Milking Equipment

Remodeled Flat Barn = \$3,700 / stall

Remodeled Swing Parlor = \$4,180 / stall

New Double 8 = \$9,860 / stall

New Double 12 = \$11,210 / stall

New Double 16 = \$11,430 / stall

Rotary = \$11,925 / stall

Autoflow = \$20,916 / stall

Robotic = \$204,775 / stall

Bulk tank = \$11.25 / gallon

Crowd Gate = \$12,000 - \$20,000

Special Needs/

Transition Cow Barn = \$20.46 / sq.ft.

Tie Stall Barns

Without milking systems = \$23.05 / sq.ft

With milking systems = \$32.60 / sq.ft

Heifer Barn = \$23.00 / sq.ft.

Calf Barn = \$16.75 / sq.ft.

Outside Drive-by Feeding Area

Curbed concrete alley and feed platform with headlocks and waterer = \$7.75 / sq.ft.

Horizontal Feed Storage

Site preparation, gravel base, concrete floor, sidewalls and approach area = \$28.00 / wet ton or \$84.00 / ton dry matter.

Feed Storage Slab

Includes site preparation, sub-base and labor:

Concrete = \$2.00 / sq.ft.

Asphalt = \$1.25 / sq.ft.

Macadam (breaker rock & gravel) = \$0.50 / sq.ft.

Upright Feed Storage

Concrete stave or poured in place silo, with foundation, construction and unloader = \$1.70/cu.ft.

Hay Shed = \$6.50 / sq.ft.

Commodity Feed Shed = \$16.00 / sq.ft.

December

- 5th ... **Farmers Health Coop Info Meetings** (10:00 am, 1:30 pm; 8:00 pm) - Courthouse, Waupaca
5rd ... **Soil, Water & Nutrient Management Meeting** (10:00 a.m.) – Gathering, Shawano
11th ... **UW-Madison Arlington Dairy Day** (10:00 a.m.) – Arlington Ag Research Station, north Madison
14th ... **Holstein Breeders Annual Meeting** (12 noon) – Hahn-A-Lula Resort, Fremont

January

- 8th ... **Cow College** (10:00 a.m.) – Larsen Coop Feed Mill, Weyauwega
8th ... **Cow College** (1:00 p.m.) – FVTC Regional Center, Hwy 22/45 Clintonville
9th ... **Agronomy Update Meeting** (12 noon) – Liberty Hall, Kimberly
15th ... **Cow College** (10:00 a.m.) – Larsen Coop Feed Mill, Weyauwega
15th ... **Cow College** (1:00 p.m.) – FVTC Regional Center, Hwy 22/45 Clintonville
15^h-17^h ... **WI Fertilizer, Aglime & Pest Mgmt. Conference** – Alliant Energy Center, Madison
22nd ... **Cow College** – Shawano/Oconto County area
24th– 25th ... **WI Corn/Soybean** – WI Dells
29th- 30th ... **Midwest Forage Association Statewide Annual Meeting** – WI Dells

February

- 5th ... **Private Pesticide Certification Training** (9:00 a.m.) – City Hall, Manawa
13th ... **Private Pesticide Certification Training** (9:00 a.m.) - Crystal Falls, New London
14th - 16th ... **WI Grazing Conference**
21st ... **Waupaca Co. Forage Council Annual Meeting** (10:30 am) – Cedar Springs, Manawa