Maryland Department of Agriculture and its partners at the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension will hold three workshops in July to provide dairy farmers with financial risk management information and updates on manure management requirements beginning this winter.

"We encourage our dairy farmers to take advantage of the information being provided at these workshops," said Secretary of Agriculture Joe Bartenfelder. "This has been a financially challenging year for the dairy sector. It is important to be aware of the tools available to assist dairy farmers."

Presenters from the University of Maryland, Penn State University, Maryland Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Credit, Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corp. and others are designed to provide critical information. Topics will include:

- State of the Dairy Economy
- New Nutrient Management Regulations and Impact on Dairy Farmers
- Programs Available to Pay for Storage
- Paying For Storage in the Current Dairy Economy
- Legal Considerations When Dealing With Nutrient Management Regulations
- Risk Management Tools Available to Dairy Farmers

The meetings will be held from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m., and lunch is included. The workshops will be held at the following locations:

- July 11 - Cecil County Extension, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Suite 1500, Elkton (Registration: 410-996-5280 or here)
- July 12 - Washington County Extension, 7303 Sharpsburg Pike, Boonsboro (Registration: 301-405-1293 or here)
- July 14 - Garrett County Extension, 1916 Maryland Highway, Suite A, Mt. Lake Park (Registration: 301-405-1293 or here)

For more information, call Mark Powell, Maryland Department of Agriculture, at 410-841-5775 or Paul Goeringer, University of Maryland, at 301-405-3541.
**JULY 2016 CALENDAR**

04 - Independence Day

11 - Dairy Financial Risk and Nutrient Management Workshop, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Cecil County Administration Building, Elkton, MD. To register, call 410-996-5280 or email Donna Witkowski at dwitkow1@umd.edu. Details P1

13 - Queen Anne’s County Farm Bureau Picnic, Queen Anne’s County 4-H Park, Centreville, MD, 7:00 p.m., bring a covered dish. Call 410-490-6370 for more info.

15 - Cover Crop Sign-Up 2016-2017 Deadline. Contact your local Soil Conservation District Office. Details P3

15 - Celebrate 100 Years of Farm Credit at all MidAtlantic Farm Credit Offices 11am - 3 pm.

16 - Maryland Grape Growers Association Summer Field Day, Davidson, MD. For more information visit: http://marylandgrapes.org/ Details P5

17 - Cecil County Breeders Fair Horse Show, (postponed from an earlier date due to inclement weather), Cecil County Fairgrounds, Fair Hill, MD

19 - Timely Ag Issues/Grain Marketing, 7:30 a.m., QA Extension Office, Centreville, MD. $2/person: coffee, donuts, etc.

19 - Farm Diversification: Profitability with Specialty Fruits and Vegetables, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., WMREC, Keedysville, MD. Contact Debby Dant. Details P5

ddant@umd.edu, 410-827-8056, x115.

19 - Land as Your Legacy Estate Planning Breakfast and Business Seminar, 7:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., Queen Anne’s County 4-H Park, Centreville, MD. For more information contact Ann Ansel, 443-275-9654 or Alex Buehler, 410-922-3426.

21-23 Kent County Fair, Kent Ag Center, Chestertown, MD

22-30 Cecil County Fair, Cecil County Fairgrounds, Fair Hill, MD

**AUGUST 2016**

02 - Timely Ag Issues/Grain Marketing, 7:30 a.m., QA Extension Office, Centreville, MD. $2/person: coffee, donuts, etc.

8-13 - Queen Anne’s County Fair, Queen Anne’s County 4-H Park, Centreville, MD.

09 - Choptank Symposium, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, MD. Contact Nancy Nunn at nnunn@umd.edu or 410-827-8056 x 128.

11 - Sustainable Agriculture & Organic Twilight Meeting Tour, CMREC Upper Marlboro Farm. 4:30-8:30 p.m. To register, email Veronica Johnson at vjohnso4@umd.edu or call 301-405-4728 no later than August 1.

16 - Timely Ag Issues/Grain Marketing, 7:30 a.m., QA Extension Office, Centreville, MD. $2/person: coffee, donuts, etc.

17 - Understanding Acidified Foods Workshop, 8:30 - 5:00 p.m., MD Department of Agriculture, Annapolis. Contact Carol Reynolds at 401-841-5769 or Carol.Reynolds@maryland.gov.

**Upcoming - Save the Date**

September 20-22 - 7th National Small Farm Conference, Virginia Beach, VA.

February 8-9, 2017 - Mid-Atlantic Women in Agriculture Conference, Dover DE

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**Maryland Grain Checkoff Referendum**

The Maryland Grain Checkoff Program was passed by referendum in 1991 to allow farmers to jointly invest in programs, research and initiatives that capitalize on opportunities specifically for Maryland growers.

The Maryland Grain Checkoff was established under state law and must be approved by referendum every five years to continue. The next referendum is July 29, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at county Extension offices. To be eligible to vote, you must be financially engaged in the growing of grain as a tenant, landowner or sharecropper.

Absentee ballots may be mailed to the MGPA office before July 29. Ballots are available at Extension Offices or the MGPA office (call 410- 956-5771 or email info@marylandgrain.com). For more information, visit: Checkoff Program.
Considerations for Controlling Weeds in Drowned Out Crops

Mark VanGessel, Extension Weed Specialist; mjv@udel.edu

An area of the field where the crop has drowned out gives weeds an opportunity to grow without crop competition, and potentially produce a tremendous amount of weed seeds. If a particularly troublesome species such as Texas panicum or Palmer amaranth is growing in these spots they could really cause problems for the next few years if they are allowed to produce seeds. So what should you do? Some things to consider are whether you can reach these spots with equipment such as mower or sprayers; what is the crop in the field; what do you intend to plant in the field after harvest; and what will effectively control or kill the weeds?

Mowing is an option, but in all likelihood the areas will need to be mowed at 10 to 14 day intervals to prevent seed production.

If considering a herbicide, first assess the situation. If you are treating areas of a field, and will be harvesting the crop around the bare areas, you are limited to herbicide options for the crop planted in the field. Furthermore, you are limited to the same herbicide rates and herbicide application timings. Use of a herbicide with residual control is going to be important.

Also, consider what will be planted in the field next and check your rotational intervals. Will you have enough time between herbicide application and planting the next crop? This is a situation where you will have to assess each field individually, but these drowned out areas may need special attention.

Agronomic Crop Insect Management

Joanne Whalen, Extension IPM Specialist; jwhalen@udel.edu

Alfalfa

Continue to sample for potato leafhoppers on a weekly basis. As temperatures increase you will see an increase in populations. Once plants are yellow, yield loss has already occurred. The treatment thresholds are 20 per 100 sweeps on alfalfa 3 inches or less in height, 50 per 100 sweeps in 4-6 inch tall alfalfa and 100 per 100 sweeps in 7-11 inch tall alfalfa.

Field Corn

We continue to find a few fields with cereal leaf beetle (CLB) adult feeding. Beetle adults can be found moving out of untreated small grains and feeding on the edge of corn fields. Although we do not have any firm thresholds for this insect on corn, as a general guideline controls may be needed if you find an average of 10 beetles per plant and 50% of the plants exhibit feeding damage. In the Midwest, it has been reported that the adult beetle is a vector of maize chlorotic mottle virus (MCMV) that causes corn lethal necrosis disease. Thresholds for beetle feeding would be much lower if this disease is an issue. We have not seen this virus in Delaware corn fields; however, please let us know if you suspect a problem.

As stink bugs move from weeds and wheat into corn, you will want to start sampling corn for this insect pest. Please see the most recent report on stink bug sampling and treatment timing in field corn from North Carolina https://entomology.ces.ncsu.edu/2016/06/stink-bugs-moving-into-corn/

Soybeans

Be sure to sample the earliest planted fields for bean leaf beetles, potato leafhoppers, thrips, grasshoppers, green cloverworm and spider mites. Grasshoppers are present, especially in no-till fields. As barley and wheat are harvested and soybeans are planted, these fields will be susceptible to attack and grasshopper feeding can often cause stand loss. If stand reductions are occurring from plant emergence to the second trifoliate, a treatment should be applied. Although no precise thresholds are available, a treatment may be needed if you find one grasshopper per sweep and 30% defoliation from plant emergence through the pre-bloom stage. Numerous products are labeled for grasshopper control in soybeans. Be sure to check all labels carefully before combining insecticides and herbicides since there are a number of restrictions, including cautions on phytotoxicity.
Corn, soybeans and wheat are the major agronomic crops grown in Maryland representing over 900,000 acres of cropland and valued at over $700 million (NASS 2012). In order to provide the most current education and research University of Maryland Extension provides winter agronomy meetings for Maryland farmers, crop advisors and agriculture professionals. The goal is to provide updates on products, research results and regulatory certifications to increase farm vitality through increased yields and profits.

Farmers from the Lower Eastern Shore to Western Maryland participated in annual winter agronomy meetings to increase crop production knowledge, meet regulatory requirements and improve production practices. In 2016, over 480 farmers attended sessions. Of those attending over 58% have been farming more than 20 years with the average farmer tilling 605 acres.

Over 93% of the participants report that the session will benefit their farming operation. Participants report information and production practices that will be implemented following the program. These include: Improved pest management practices (29%), Improved fertility management (47%), Improved crop production practices (46%), Use of risk management tools (12%), Regulatory information (31%), A new product or practice (26%).

Winter agronomy meeting participants were asked the expected yield increase due to knowledge and skills gained from Extension programming. The average participant will increase yield per acre between 6.5% and 9.6%.

Agronomy meeting participants were also asked the expected profitability increase per acre due to knowledge and skills gained from Extension programming. The average participant increases profitability between $16.23 and $25.23 per acre. Using the average acres farmed per person the overall average profitability is $(20.23*605ac) = $12,239.15 per person.

T. MCCOY & S. DILL, 5/19/2016
Farm Diversification

Farm Diversification: Profitability with Specialty Fruits and Vegetables
July 19, 2016
Western Maryland Research and Education Center

Farm diversification opens opportunity and increases potential profitability! Adding specialty fruit and vegetable crops to your farm can increase profit margins several ways. Like diversifying in the stock market, engaging in more than one enterprise and adding value to what you already grow will spread profit risk, not to mention the “growing” interests in locally produced foods.

Extension educators and local growers come together to present their ideas during this one-day program to help you increase your knowledge on specialty crops, food safety, marketing and the University services available to help you. The workshop will run from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. PLEASE register by mail, phone, fax, or email NO LATER THAN JULY 12, 2016. Registration fee is $30.00 (includes coffee/donuts & lunch).

To register online visit Workshop or email Debbie Dant at ddant@umd.edu or call 410-827-8056 X115. For additional program information, contact Andrew Ristvey, aristvey@umd.edu, 410-827-8056 X113.

MGGA/UMD SUMMER FIELD DAY
The Vineyards at Dodon
Saturday July 16, 2016
8:30 - 9:00: Registration. Coffee, juice, and doughnuts provided.
9:00 - 9:30: Welcome and Introductions – Announcements from MGGA and Overview of The Vineyards at Dodon by Tom Croghan.
9:30 – 11:00 Grape IVM: Integrated vineyard management includes assessing the vineyard for current conditions, including canopy management, nutrition, crop level, diseases, and other pests. This session will be in the vineyard, so please bring your hat, sunscreen and sunglasses. Instructor - Dr. Joe Fiola, UME and Dr. Cassandra Swett, UMD
11:00 – 11:15: Break
11:15 – 12:00: Ground cover management for sustainable grape production. Dr. Michela Centinari*, Assistant Professor of Viticulture, Penn State University
12:00 - 1:00: LUNCH - Bring your own lunch, favorite beverage, and your own lawn chair for seating.
1:00 – 1:45: Frost and frost control in the vineyard. Dr. Centinari*, PSU
1:45 – 2:45: Tasting of Regional R&D Wines – Dr. Joe Fiola, UME
2:45 – 3:00: Break
3:00 – 4:00: Sustainable viticulture workbook – Dr. Joe Fiola, UME
4:00 – 5:00: Winery Tour

**MAK E SURE YOU BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH AND SEATING**

Private & Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification Credits for this event are pending

*Invited Guest: Dr. Michela Centinari, is an Assistant Professor of Viticulture for Penn State University. Dr. Centinari’s research and extension program integrates both basic and applied aspects of grapevine physiology to improve production and quality. She specializes in vineyard floor management and understanding and managing winter and frost/freeze damage.

For information on registration contact Dean Jones - dean.jones2@comcast.net - 301-802-8906 or visit www.marylandgrapes.org.

Choptank Symposium
Tuesday August 9, 2016 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Chesapeake College, 1000 College Circle
Wye Mills, MD 21679

A one-day conference to learn about the studies and best management practices that are underway in the Choptank watershed to improve water quality. Spend the day learning about:

- The current state of the Choptank River
- Projects and research that are occurring in the watershed to address the river’s water quality issues
- Current and future practices that the agricultural community employ to mitigate the impacts to water quality
- The application of knowledge and practices from the Choptank watershed which may address other tributaries’ nutrient issues

For more information contact Nancy Nunn, The Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology, 410-827-8056 X128, nnunn@umd.edu. To register online visit Choptank Symposium.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO LARRY’S PIT BEEF**
The University of Maryland, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources programs are open to all and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression. The University of Maryland is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Equal Access Programs. La Universidad de Maryland es una institución con Igualdad de Oportunidades de Empleo y con Igualdad de Acceso a Programas.

Contact your local UME Agriculture Educator:
Cecil County ~ Doris Behnke at 410-996-5280 or dbenhke@umd.edu
Kent County ~ Nate Richards at 410-778-1661 or nrichard@umd.edu
Queen Anne’s County ~ Jennifer Rhodes at 410-758-0166 or jrhodes@umd.edu

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S 2016 PESTICIDE CONTAINER RECYCLING COLLECTION DATES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>EASTERN SHORE</th>
<th>CENTRAL MARYLAND</th>
<th>WESTERN MARYLAND</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kent County - Chestertown</td>
<td>Hartford County - Steet</td>
<td>Frederick County - Frederick **</td>
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<td>LOCATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholson Transfer</td>
<td>June 10</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
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<td>Faculty on East Nicholson Road</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Talbot County - Easton*</td>
<td>3241 Sturton Road</td>
<td>August 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Talbot County - White Hall</td>
<td>The Mill of Black Horse</td>
<td>4551 Norrisville Road</td>
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<td>Location</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wicomico County - Salisbury</td>
<td>1329 Maugansville Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newkirk</td>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Park Landing on Back Road</td>
<td>July 22</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wicomico County - Birdsville</td>
<td>1329 Maugansville Road</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
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INSPECTION CHECKLIST

- All containers must be made from high density polyethylene (HDPE).
- The container must have held an EPA-registered pesticide or adjuvant, crop oil, etc.
- Pesticide containers must be properly rinsed (pressure-rinsed or triple-rinsed).
- Caps and other non-HDPE parts, such as metal handles and rubber linings, cannot be recycled.
- Stained containers are acceptable provided no material can be smeared or removed when washed with a rubber glove.
- Please remove lids and label booklets prior to recycling.
- Any container up to 55 gallons will be accepted. If requirements above are met, all containers 30 gallons and over must be cut prior to recycling. RCs will also be accepted (contact MDA for instructions).
- For any container over 55 gallons (except RCs), contact MDA prior to recycling.

* Note - Because of legal restrictions, only residents from Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot counties are able to use the collection site in Easton. Lower Shore residents must use the collection site in Salisbury.