

Newsletter

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION
Solutions in your community

Talbot County • 28577 Mary's Court, Suite 1 • Easton, MD 21601 • (410) 822-1244 •

SHORE FARMING

Summer 2011

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Agronomy and Vegetable Newsletters

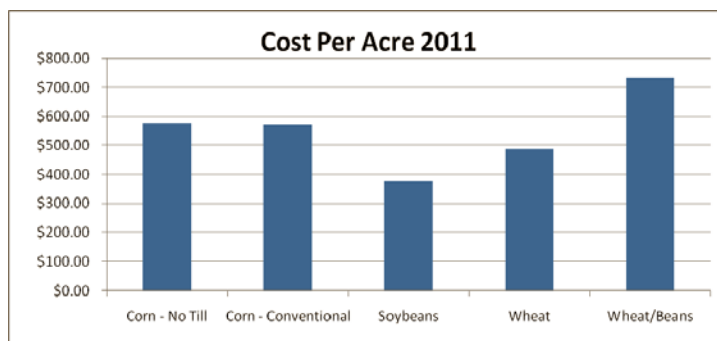
University of Maryland will be writing and distributing agronomic and fruit and vegetable newsletters through the growing season. These will include timely information for weed, insect and disease control as well as other production information. If you would like to receive these please send me your email so I can add you to our list sdill@umd.edu. To view the latest newsletters visit www.mdcrops.umd.edu (agronomy news) and www.annearundel.umd.edu (fruit and vegetable).



Wheat Scab Tool



There is a scab forecasting tool that everyone should be using. It can be found on the web at http://www.wheatscab.psu.edu/riskTool_2011.html. At this site there is commentary over the next several weeks to help interpret the risk levels displayed on the map. You can also sign up for e-mail or text messages that warn you when any commentary is changed at the forecasting website. Sign up for these scab alerts by going to http://scabusa.org/fhb_alert.php. You will have the option to get all the commentary from all the regions or just the Mid-Atlantic.



www.mdgrainmarkets.umd.edu

Pre-Side Nitrogen Test

It's spring again and time to think about your crop fertilizer needs for the growing season. For producers who will be planting corn and utilizing an organic source of nitrogen, such as manure or bio-solid, the University of Maryland Extension offers the Pre-side Nitrogen Test (PSNT). PSNT is a soil test that can accurately measure the quantity of nitrate present in a field; and will allow the grower to determine if side dressing is necessary. Since this test only can only be used on fields that have received an organic source of N, it is not recommended on fields where commercial fertilizer is the only fertilizer used. PSNT is a reliable tool when the total N fertilizer prior it side dress is less than 50 lbs/ acres.

PSNT is usually conducted when the plants are between 6 and 12 inches tall and is approaching its peak N uptake period. Soil sample are collected from the top 12 inch of the soil. To obtain an accurate measurement, 30 to 40 samples are taken from each field. Soil is then air-dried for about 24 hours and analyzed with a Nitrachek nitrate tester.

To have PSNT conducted on your corn crop or if you have any questions about the test, please contact Sherman Cuncell at the Talbot County Extension Office, 410-822-1244. Please plan to bring samples in Monday through Thursday so that they can be tested properly.

Protecting Sensitive Crops From Herbicide Drift

Maryland Secretary of Agriculture, Buddy Hance announced a new online tool under development to protect sensitive crops from unintended herbicide exposure. Growers of grapes, tomatoes, tobacco, fruit trees, ornamentals and other specialty vegetable crops are encouraged to register their crops and field locations with the MDA to ensure they are included in the database. Controlling pesticide drift is an important issue for pesticide applicators," said Secretary Hance. —The innovative Sensitive Crop Locator database will

be a valuable tool to help protect sensitive crops from unintended herbicide exposure. We encourage farmers to register their sensitive crops and field locations with MDA to ensure they are included in the voluntary database.

Crop and field location information will be included in the new voluntary statewide Sensitive Crop Locator database to assist pesticide applicators in identifying locations where sensitive crops are grown in order to take extra precautions for preventing the potential exposure of these crops to spray drift from neighboring fields. Applicators can search, identify and locate sensitive crops adjacent to areas where they intend to spray pesticides. The database, enveloped with specialty crop funding, will also offer pesticide applicators access to maps and aerial photographs. The off target movement of herbicides from the site of application, referred to as drift, may cause injury to desirable plants located in adjacent fields, or property. Spray drift is typically the result of small spray droplets being carried off-site by air movement. The main weather factors that cause drift are wind, humidity and temperature changes. Drift can injure foliage, shoots, flowers and fruits resulting in reduced yields, economic loss and illegal residues on exposed crops. Registration: www.mda.state.md.us/pdf/sensitive_crop_application.pdf or (FMI) brochure: www.mda.state.md.us/pdf/drift





Pesticide Container Recycling Program

For 18 years, Maryland's pesticide container recycling program, offered by the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), has helped prevent pesticide residues from entering the soil and local waterways and has saved valuable landfill space by recycling 658,000 empty, plastic pesticide containers. The program will open its 19th year of operation in June, asking farmers, pesticide applicators and others to properly rinse and recycle their empty pesticide containers. A total of 28 collection days are scheduled June through September at eight locations throughout the state.

The pesticide container recycling program is **FREE** and open to all agricultural producers and pesticide applicators. The Agricultural Container Recycling Council (ACRC) provides a chipper to grind the plastic containers into flakes, which are then transported to a contractor for recycling. The containers collected in Maryland have yielded more than 281 tons of recyclable plastic flakes.

**MidShore Regional Solid Waste
Barker's Landing 8 am-12 pm
June 17
July 22
August 19
September 16**

UPCOMING EVENTS

62nd Delmarva Chicken Festival



June 17 & 18, 2011, from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. at the Delmarva Christian High School located at: 21150 Airport Rd, Georgetown, DE - Sponsored by Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. (DPI); Hosted in 2011 by The Greater Georgetown Chamber of Commerce (FMI) Delmarva Poultry

Industry, Inc. at 800-878-2449 or dpi@dpichicken.com.

Talbot County Fair

July 13, 14, 15, 16 – Talbot County Agriculture and Education Center, Hiners Lane
www.talbotcountyfair.org



Grain Marketing for Women

Have you wondered where to get information about grain markets and what terms like options, futures and basis means? This workshop will introduce grain marketing basics with topics such as finding grain marketing information, crop budgeting, and pricing tools. We will then use a hands on approach in writing and implementing a grain marketing plan.



Cost: \$10 per person and includes breakfast and Materials

Date: Thursday, July 28th 8:30 a.m. – Noon
Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, MD -
Economic Development Center Room 27
To register contact 410-758-0166 or email at jrhodes@umd.edu

Crops Twilight Barbecue & Ice Cream Social

You are invited to attend a Field Crops Research Twilight, Barbecue and Ice Cream Social at the Central Maryland Research & Education Center, Upper Marlboro Farm on Thursday, August 4, 2011 from 4:30 pm to 9 pm. A barbecue dinner will be served at 4:30 pm followed by homemade ice cream prior to the evening tour! The research farm is located at 2005 Largo Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

University of Maryland Extension Educators and Specialists will showcase their field crop, vegetable and fruit research plots. The twilight tour highlights will include: Vegetable

integrated pest management and reduced risk control methods; Field crops research updates; Meadow orchard concept and Fruit research update for apples, peentos, blueberries and beach plums; and a vineyard research update for wine grapes. Please arrive on-time as the tour will start promptly at 6:00 pm. This event is free. However, a reserved meal ticket is required.

**Mid-Atlantic
Precision
Agriculture
Equipment Day**



Tuesday, August 30, 2011

9 AM – Noon

Caroline County 4-H Park

Please join us for an exciting and educational day. We will have some of the top, nationally recognized speakers covering current topics in precision agriculture. You will learn how to make precision agriculture pay in your operation. Practical and informative advice will be given on sprayer and planter section control, variable rate seeding, economics and practical implementation of RTK and GPS, soil mapping, using technology for on-farm research and developing variable rate prescriptions, and much more.

Speakers include:

- Dr. Randy Taylor, Oklahoma State University
- Dr. John Fulton, Auburn University
- Dr. Mike Buschermole, University of Tennessee
- Dr. Matt Darr, Iowa State University
- Dr. Bobby Grisso, Virginia Tech

DE and MD Nutrient Management Credits & CCA Credits



**Farm Estate Planning
Workshop**

You've worked hard to build your assets—your farm, home, personal property—and to provide a level of financial security for your

loved ones. Doesn't it make sense to work just as hard to protect them in the event something should happen to you?

Come learn how to start that all important line of communication, with resources that will help you along the way. This workshop will include an in-depth discussion on —best practices|| to preserve your life's holdings, ensure their efficient transfer to your beneficiaries and meet family objectives. Attendees will learn: Wills, Living Wills, Powers of Attorneys - What they do- and don't do; When to update?, How to protect your assets from death taxes and nursing home care costs, Your options for paying for home care and assisted living care, Keeping the peace: Ideas for reducing conflict among family members, Stretch IRA- reducing tax liability over multiple generations, Special issues unique to farmland and farming businesses, What you can start doing now to prepare for the possibility of your death or disability. Speakers include University of Maryland Extension Specialists, a Chartered Retirement Planning counselor and a lawyer that specializes in farm estate planning.

The workshops are targeted to farmers and owners of farm and other rural land. Individuals involved in farm estate planning, other businesses serving farmers, and state and local governments would also find this workshop helpful.

Cost: \$10 per person and includes lunch and materials

Date: Wednesday, Sept. 7th, 8:30 a.m. Reg. - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. – Program

Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, MD - Higher Education Center Rm 110

To register contact 410-758-0166 or email jrhodes@umd.edu



CALENDAR of EVENTS

MAY

20 Annie's Project Reunion Lunch & Learn
Chesapeake College, 11:00 – 3:00
www.anniesproject.umd.edu

JUNE

17-18 Delmarva Chicken Festival, Georgetown,
DE 1-800-878-2449

JULY

13 – 16 Talbot County Fair, Talbot Ag Center
28-Grain Marketing for Women, Chesapeake
College, Contact Jenny Rhodes 410-758-0166

AUGUST

4 – Crops Twilight BBQ & Ice Cream Social
28 – Sept 5 Maryland State Fair,
www.marylandstatefair.com

30 Precision Ag Day

SEPTEMBER

1-5 Maryland State Fair
7 Estate Planning Workshop, Chesapeake
College, Contact Jenny Rhodes, 410-758-0166

THANK YOU,

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BUY FRESH BUY LOCAL

BUY TALBOT COUNTY



Easton Farmers' Market

Town Parking lot off
Harrison Street

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to

1:00 p.m. April 16 - December 17

Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

June 22 - September 21

Contact: Carolyn Jaffe 410-820-8822

*FMNP Checks (WIC & Senior) & FVC
Accepted*



St. Michaels "FRESHFARM" Market

Muskrat Park on the St. Michaels
Harbor: Corner of Willow St. & Green
St.

Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

April 16 - October 8

Contact: Carol Bean 410-829-8228

*FMNP Checks (WIC & Senior) & FVC
Accepted*

FRESHFARM Markets