Northern Farm Bill Workshop

USDA – Farm Service Agency University of Maryland’s Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics (AREC), University of Maryland Extension (UME), Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), and USDA – Risk Management Agency would like to announce a series of upcoming Farm Bill workshops across Maryland. These workshops will build upon the earlier ones held in August and familiarize participants with final rules, signup deadlines, and how to utilize decision tools to pick the program options that work best for a producer. Producers will hear from experts with FSA on the finalized program rules and signup deadlines for the new commodity programs Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) programs and the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) program and the new Dairy Margin Protection Program (MPP). Decision tools developed in partnership with FSA will be highlighted by representatives from the Department of Ag and Resource Economics. The decision tools are designed to help producers gain an understanding of how these programs could potentially manage risks in their operations. USDA-RMA will cover new crop insurance options, such as Supplemental Coverage Option.

Finally, participants will be provided with an opportunity to utilize the web-based decision making tools and ask questions to the trainers. The decision making process in the 2014 Farm Bill is not an easy process, and understanding how the decision making tools can aid in this decision will allow the producer to make a better decision for their individual operation. Producers are highly encouraged to bring past yield histories, previous planting histories, and base acres for at least one farm to see how a program would impact your farm.

When: December 4, 2014
Where: Balto. Co. Ag Center 1114 Shawan Road, Cocksleyville, MD 21030

This workshop will run from 9:30 am to 3 pm and lunch will be provided. Preregistration is required to register for the event please go to http://ter.ps/farmbill2

The tentative agenda is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 to 10:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 to 11:00</td>
<td>Overview of Final Regulations and Deadlines for New Commodity and Dairy Programs, George Turner or Bob Wevodau, MD USDA-FSA</td>
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<td>11:00 to 12:00</td>
<td>The Decision Tool: Walking Through An Example Howard Leathers, AREC</td>
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<td>12:00 to 1:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>1:00 to 1:30</td>
<td>Crop Insurance Update, Steve Connelly, MDA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 to 3:00</td>
<td>Evaluations and Producers Using Decision Tools – Trainers will help answer questions to better aid producers use tools on their own</td>
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The University of Maryland Extension Office in Baltimore County will be CLOSED on:

November 27, 2014 (H)
November 28, 2014 (H)
MDA Deadline for Manure Application Extended to December 6

ANNAPOLIS, MD (November 12, 2014) – Due to a late harvest, the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) has extended the deadline for the fall application of organic waste on dairy farms and other livestock operations from November 15 to December 6. This extension does not apply to poultry farmers.

“Due to heavy rains, spring planting was delayed by as much as four weeks in many areas of the state. As a result, farmers will be harvesting their corn and soybean crops for another month or even longer. We have enjoyed a long, warm fall this year, which makes a deadline extension both practical and reasonable,” said MDA Secretary Buddy Hance. “The extra time will allow farmers to empty their waste storage structures in preparation for winter. This, in turn, will reduce the number of farmers who exceed their manure storage capacity over the winter and need to request emergency spreading. We want to avoid application of nutrients in the winter when they are most subject to runoff.”

Farmers should consult their Nutrient Management Plans or contact MDA’s Nutrient Management Program at 410-841-5959 or www.mda.maryland.gov for more information.

Farm Bill Decision Making Tools Now Available Online

Paul Goeringer, University of Maryland

On Sept. 25, 2014, USDA announced the release of two online tools to aid producers in the choice between Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC). Both programs are cornerstones of the commodity farm safety net programs in the 2014 Farm Bill legislation. Both programs offer farmers protection when market forces cause substantial drops in crop prices and/or revenues. Producers will have through early spring of 2015 to select which program works best for their businesses.

The online tools were developed by the University of Illinois and Texas A&M University. Both online tools will assist producers in making the base reallocation decision, updating payment yields and choosing between ARC and PLC. “This is not going to be a simple decision,” said Howard Leathers, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of Maryland; “Producers will need to make sure they have records from previous years in order for either tool to work.”

The tools are available at either: https://usda.afpc.tamu.edu (Texas A&M’s) or http://farmbilltoolbox.farmdoc.illinois.edu/ (University of Illinois).

Ag Law Blog … This blog is brought to you as an outreach project by the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. The blog will provide readers updates on court decisions, regulations, and other risk management news important to the Maryland agriculture community. Read more here: www.aglaw.umd.edu/blog/frequently-asked-questions-can-the-state-highway-administration-plant-trees-adjacent-to-my-farm

Maryland and Delaware Cash Rents – By County, Updated for 2014

Cash rents for each county in Maryland and Delaware Cash rents are updated for 2014. You can read the blog post from Risk Management or just print out the document with non-irrigated and irrigated land rental rates.


Printable document http://ter.ps/cashrent14

The State of the Science of Phosphorus

When: January 30, 2015
Where: Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, Maryland
http://phosphorussymposium.com

Consider planning to attend this symposium to better understand the current state of science surrounding phosphorus transport, soil dynamics, legacies, modeling, and its impact on water quality. Experts on the science of phosphorus from across the country will be featured. the Symposium is hosted by …

• Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board (MGPUB)
• Chesapeake Bay Foundation
• University of Maryland Extension

Do you have a question you would like answered at the Symposium? Email questions here: info@phosphorussymposium.com
INFORMATION

Maryland Farm Bureau Trucking Manual

This manual has been prepared to inform farmers of the various provisions of the Maryland Motor Vehicle laws affecting owners and users of implements of husbandry. While it is impossible to cover the entire Federal and State motor vehicle code, the provisions that concern the use of farm vehicles on public highways are presented. The Maryland legislature has adopted many laws and amendments to existing laws that govern the licensing and operations of farm vehicles used primarily in connection with agricultural endeavors. Farmers need to be aware of such laws and observe both the spirit and the letter of the law.

The Maryland Farm Bureau has attempted to extract those state laws and federal regulations which apply to farmers. However, Maryland’s Motor Vehicle Code and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (49 CFR, Parts 390-397) should be checked for changes.


4-H Ag Science Series

The Baltimore County 4-H Program is committed to educating 4-Hers and the general public about the importance of Agriculture. We have created a series of Ag and Animal Science based workshops for 4-H and non (future) 4-Hers. We encourage you to participate in these opportunities and to spread the word. These will be ideal experiences for 4-Hers to add to their record books and animal person of the year nomination forms! The cost is $20 for all 4 sessions or $7 per class.

We hope to see you there! To register for these sessions, please call the 4-H office at 410-887-8090. Sessions will be held at the Ag Center/4-H Office at 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030. All classes will be from 1 pm – 4 pm. The next sessions are:

December 13, 2014
All about Meats
In this workshop you will learn about how to judge meat cuts to choose the highest quality cuts for your meal. Topics covered will include meat judging, cooking techniques, identifying cuts of meat, and livestock management factors affecting meat quality and contests for the fair that you can participate without owning an animal.

February 21, 2015
Veterinary Science
This workshop will cover an introduction to veterinary care of livestock. Topics will include how to identify a sick animal, administering medication, basic animal first aid, and steps to keep animals healthy.

March 21, 2015
Spring Gardens
It’s time to prepare for your spring garden. This workshop will focus on getting you started on planting your spring garden. Topics include soil science, composting, preparing a seed bed, and planning your garden layout. We will also build and plant salad boxes. Salad boxes can be used as a woodworking exhibit at the 4-H fair.

Poultry Mortality Composting Short Course and Demonstration

Where: University of Maryland Eastern Shore
When: January 7, 2015
A short course on Poultry Mortality will be held at UMES on January 7th at the Poultry Research Center. Registration is $40 and covers refreshments and materials. Maximum registration is 30 people. A full description of the course is attached, including a registration form. For questions call 301-405-1198 or email tscites@umd.edu. Please register by January 5, 2015.
Beginner Farmer Training Program Now Accepting Applications

COCKEYSVILLE, MD – A unique, year-long training program for beginning farmers is now accepting applications for farmer trainees in the Chesapeake region. The program’s goal is to equip the region’s brightest new farmers with the knowledge and hands-on experience necessary to start a successful farm.

The average age of farmers in the region is close to 60-years-old, according to the latest USDA census. At the same time, demand for fresh, local produce is also on the rise. A wave of aspiring farmers, young and older, are ready to take up the mantle, but obstacles are many: access to workable, affordable land; finding resources; and connecting with other new farmers, to name a few.

Enter the Beginner Farmer Training Program (BFTP), now in its sixth year, which provides a comprehensive, year-long experience designed for new farmers ready to farm.

Background:

The BFTP is unique among farmer training programs across the nation in that it allows participants to work part- or full-time at their existing farms or jobs while completing training. Participants are encouraged to transition into farming with a detailed crop and business plan in place.

BFTP pairs trainees with experienced farmers who have already established profitable, sustainable farms in the region. In addition to this hands-on training, BFTP also provides classes, workshops, and field days. Speaking about his experience in the program, graduate Devin Barto said: “I believe that I could assume the responsibilities of a farm following this training experience because of the skills that I gained.” Barto now manages a large CSA at Pennypack Farm in Horsham, PA.

BFTP accepts applications from new farmers located throughout the Chesapeake, including MD, DC, VA, WV, DE and PA. To find out more about the program and to complete an online application, go to: www.futureharvestcasa.org/field-school/beginner-farmer-training-program

Nutrient Applicator Voucher Training and Renewal

Part of Maryland’s Nutrient Management regulations requires farmers to have a Nutrient Applicators Voucher if they apply nutrients (such as fertilizer, manure or compost) to 10 acres or more. The University of Maryland Extension office is offering both training for people who need a new voucher and training for people who need to renew their voucher. Both sessions will be at the Baltimore County, University of Maryland Extension office; 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville (the Ag Center). There is no cost for the training session. The Voucher is good for a 3 year period.

The training for a NEW voucher
When: December 19, 2014 at 8:30 am to 11:00 am

The training for Voucher RENEWAL
When: December 19, 2014 at 9:00 am to 11:00 am

So that we can make the final arrangements we ask that you register for the training program. To register, get more program information, or to let us know of special needs please contact the Extension office at 410-887-8090.

Attention all Commercial Vegetable Growers are invited to the 2015 Central Maryland Vegetable Growers Meeting on Friday, January 30, 2015.
Attention all producers of corn, soybeans, small grains and hay you are invited to attend the 2014 Northern Maryland Field Crops Day Meeting on Thursday, December 11, 2014.

Presentation topics:

- Soybean Growth and Maturity – What to plant when?
- “Drones” in Agriculture – a Tool for IPM
- Your Budget and Market: Locking in Your Profit
- Update on Palmer Amaranth and Giant Ragweed
- Soil Health - A Key Part of the Nutrient Plan
- Pollinator Protection & Expanding Pollination Areas
- Critical Decisions: Farm Bill Overview, Nitrogen Management for Corn, Small Grains, and Soybeans
- Palmer Amaranth and Giant Ragweed

Location: Friendly Farm Restaurant

17434 Foreston Rd. Upperco, Md 21155
located about 5 miles west of I-83 via Mt. Carmel Rd. and right onto Foreston Rd.

Time:

8:30 a.m. — to visit commercial exhibits and refreshments
9:00 a.m.– 3:30 p.m. — Presentations topics

Cost:

$15.00 if you pre-register, or $25.00 at the door, includes an-all-you-can-eat lunch

This meeting serves as Recertification for Maryland private pesticide applicators and offers recertification credits for Pennsylvania recertification. In addition, producers can attend specific presentations to also renew their Maryland nutrient applicator’s voucher.

You can register to attend or get more information by calling the Baltimore County Office of the University of Maryland Extension at 410-887-8090.

Or you can sign up on Event Brite at http://ter.ps/fieldcrop14
The Farmer Training and Certification course provides an opportunity for farmers to learn how to write nutrient management plans for their own operations. As a producer, you have firsthand knowledge of your own crops, animals, and equipment. Who better to write your nutrient management plan than you? This course will teach you how to do it!

You will receive:
- A comprehensive training binder – the training binder will be used during the class, serve as a reference during the exam, and as a valuable resource when you write future plans for your operation.
- Certification – producers who pass the exam will be certified by MDA to write their own nutrient management plans.
- Voucher training credits – this class will fulfill the nutrient applicator voucher training requirements.

You will have the opportunity to:
- Complete a nutrient management plan for your operation that meets MDA regulations.
- In order to work on your own plan, you need to begin gathering information now. You will need a map or sketch of your operation, soil tests that are less than two years old, and a recent manure analysis (if manure is applied to your land). Contact your county Extension office if you need assistance with this.

Registration Information
- Space is limited and registrations are accepted on a first-come basis; therefore, register early.
- Paid registrations must be received 10 days before the first class.
- For more information, please call 410-841-5959. Classes will be cancelled if there is lack of interest.

Evening Classes 5:30 – 9 PM ($20)
#1 Operations with Pastured Animals and Cropland
University of Maryland Extension – Howard County Office
December 2 & 4 (training), 11 (exam) and 16 (plan writing)

Day Classes 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM ($35, includes lunch on first day)
#2 Crop Operations using Manure and Fertilizer
University of Maryland Wye Research and Education Center
January 20 (snow date January 23) and February 2 (exam and plan writing) (snow date February 5)
#3 Crop Operations using Manure and Fertilizer
University of Maryland Extension – Washington County Office
February 10 (snow date February 13) and February 23 (exam and plan writing) (snow date February 26)

Keep this portion for your records
Keep this portion with your payment.

Please register me for class #___________. Enclosed find my payment for the class.

Name _____________________________

Mailing Address _____________________________

County __________________ City __________ State ____ Zip Code ________

Telephone _____________________________ E-mail __________________

Special accommodations needed?

Submit a separate form for each person. Make check payable to Maryland Department of Agriculture.
Mail completed form and payment to: Nutrient Management Program, Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S Truman Pkwy, Annapolis, Maryland 21401
**Beekeeping 101 2015 Session**

Mike Embrey, University of Maryland Extension Apiculturist, will be offering a beginning beekeeping class at the Wye Research and Education Center in Queenstown, Maryland. The opening session will be held on Saturday, **January 24, 2015** from 9:00 am - 12:00 noon. Registration fee is $110.00, which includes the textbook, “The Beekeeper’s Handbook, Third Edition” by Diana Sammataro. If you have your own book, the fee will be $80.00.

You will Learn......

- About bees, in general
- About beekeeping equipment
- How and where to set up and establish a hive (i.e. location, wind, etc.)
- How to use a smoker
- How to hive a package of bees
- About “b” pests and diseases
- About winterizing your bees

There will be a total of seven (7) classes, the first five of which will be held on every other Saturday until April. The two final sessions will be held approximately the second week of August and the third week of September. These sessions will teach how to winterize your hives and how to protect your bees from diseases and pests.

For registration, contact: Debby Dant
Wye Research and Education Center PO Box 169
Queenstown, MD 21658
410-827-8056 X115
Fax: 410-827-9039
ddant@umd.edu

Registration deadline is January 10, 2015, in order to purchase books for each registrant. Please make check payable to: University of Maryland.

For program information, contact Mike Embrey, 410-827-8056 X148, membrey@umd.edu.

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**Grow It Eat It Preserve It Workshops**

**When:** Saturday, Nov. 22, 2014 - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

**Where:** Baltimore County Center for MD Agriculture

**Address:** University of MD Extension
1114 Shawan Road
Cockeysville, MD 21030

**Presenter:** Shauna Henley, Ph.D.

In this session, we will be discussing the types of jellied products that can be made at home, the ingredients needed, the necessary equipment and supplies, and the basic steps of water bath canning. You will spend time in the kitchen preparing and canning your own apple butter. This could make a nice holiday gift for your friends and neighbors or enter it in the State Fair!

To register you can bring a check or cash on the day of the class and call the office at 410-887-8090.

Please register early so that we can hold a seat for you.

**Cost:** $35 for the first workshop (cost covers a wonderful food preservation book, supplies and your own apple butter jar), $20 for each additional workshop to be offered in the spring and summer with local produce.

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**The Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention**

**When:** Jan. 27-29, 2015

**Where:** Hershey, PA.

The Convention features three days of educational sessions and a very large industry trade show. It is a good place to get all the latest information about fruits and vegetables.

The Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention has become the premier grower meeting in the Northeast combining three days of six or more concurrent educational sessions with a large industry trade show and numerous networking opportunities - all designed to enable fruit, vegetable and berry growers as well as direct marketers to stay on the cutting edge of their industries. About 2,200 persons from throughout the mid-Atlantic region and beyond gather each year at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center for the Convention. Registration is open to all interested commercial fruit, vegetable and berry growers, direct marketers and allied industry personnel.

For more information go to [www.mafvc.org](http://www.mafvc.org).
## Important Dates

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
<td><strong>4-H Ag Science Workshop</strong>&lt;br&gt; All about Meat at the BC Ag Center, 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD&lt;br&gt; from 1 pm – 4 pm</td>
<td>University of Maryland Extension&lt;br&gt; Baltimore County Office&lt;br&gt; 1114 Shawan Road, Suite 2&lt;br&gt; Cockeysville, MD 21030</td>
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<td>Nov. 22</td>
<td><strong>Food Preservation: Apple Butter</strong>&lt;br&gt; at the BC Ag Center, 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD&lt;br&gt; from 1 pm – 4 pm</td>
<td>University of Maryland Extension&lt;br&gt; Baltimore County Office&lt;br&gt; 1114 Shawan Road, Suite 2&lt;br&gt; Cockeysville, MD 21030</td>
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<td>Dec. 4</td>
<td><strong>Northern Farm Bill Workshop</strong>&lt;br&gt; Important workshop for farmers at the BC Ag Center, 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD&lt;br&gt; from 9:30 am – 3:00 pm</td>
<td>University of Maryland Extension&lt;br&gt; Baltimore County Office&lt;br&gt; 1114 Shawan Road, Suite 2&lt;br&gt; Cockeysville, MD 21030</td>
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<td>Dec. 6</td>
<td><strong>MDA Deadline for Manure Application Extended</strong>&lt;br&gt;</td>
<td>University of Maryland Extension&lt;br&gt; Baltimore County Office&lt;br&gt; 1114 Shawan Road, Suite 2&lt;br&gt; Cockeysville, MD 21030</td>
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<td>Dec. 11</td>
<td><strong>Field Crops Day</strong>&lt;br&gt; Annual day for field crop farmers from 9 am - 3:30 pm at Friendly Farms Restaurant in Upperco.</td>
<td>University of Maryland Extension&lt;br&gt; Baltimore County Office&lt;br&gt; 1114 Shawan Road, Suite 2&lt;br&gt; Cockeysville, MD 21030</td>
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<td>Dec. 13</td>
<td><strong>4-H Ag Science Workshop</strong>&lt;br&gt; This workshop is on <em>All About Meats</em> at the BC Ag Center, 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD&lt;br&gt; from 1 pm – 4 pm,</td>
<td>University of Maryland Extension&lt;br&gt; Baltimore County Office&lt;br&gt; 1114 Shawan Road, Suite 2&lt;br&gt; Cockeysville, MD 21030</td>
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<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td><strong>Poultry Mortality Composting Short Course and Demonstration</strong>&lt;br&gt; University of Maryland Eastern Shore</td>
<td>University of Maryland Eastern Shore&lt;br&gt; 213 E. College Ave&lt;br&gt; Princess Anne, MD 21853</td>
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<td>Jan. 24</td>
<td><strong>Beekeeping 101 2015 Session</strong>&lt;br&gt; at the Wye Research and Education Center in Queenstown, Maryland from 9:00 am -12:00 noon</td>
<td>University of Maryland Eastern Shore&lt;br&gt; 213 E. College Ave&lt;br&gt; Princess Anne, MD 21853</td>
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<td>Jan. 30</td>
<td><strong>2015 Central Maryland Vegetable Growers Meeting</strong>&lt;br&gt; 9 am - 3:30 pm at Friendly Farms Restaurant in Upperco.</td>
<td>University of Maryland Eastern Shore&lt;br&gt; 213 E. College Ave&lt;br&gt; Princess Anne, MD 21853</td>
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<td>Jan. 30</td>
<td><strong>The State of the Science of Phosphorus</strong>&lt;br&gt; Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, Maryland</td>
<td>University of Maryland Eastern Shore&lt;br&gt; 213 E. College Ave&lt;br&gt; Princess Anne, MD 21853</td>
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<td>Feb. 21</td>
<td><strong>4-H Ag Science Workshop</strong>&lt;br&gt; Veterinary Science at the BC Ag Center, 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD&lt;br&gt; from 1 pm – 4 pm,</td>
<td>University of Maryland Extension&lt;br&gt; Baltimore County Office&lt;br&gt; 1114 Shawan Road, Suite 2&lt;br&gt; Cockeysville, MD 21030</td>
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