4th Annual Horse Conference
On Saturday, November 8, 2008 the University of Maryland and the University of Delaware will be presenting the 4th Annual Horse Conference at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills, MD.
Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Sue McDonnell from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine’s New Boulton Center. As one of the leading experts in the field of horse behavior, she will be discussing simple methods of behavior modification that can benefit both horse and rider. Other exciting seminar topics include: equine dentistry, pasture weed management, marketing your equine business, trailer safety, managing pastures to decrease feed costs, therapeutic shoeing, farm landscaping, equine careers, parasites and deworming, managing pasture nutrients, correct saddle fitting, and the realities of starting an equine business.
Please join us for this excellent opportunity to come out, meet your colleagues, and increase your knowledge about horses! For a registration form or visit our website at www.equinestudies.umd.edu to learn more about the various speakers and their topics. For further information, please contact Kelly Brannan at kbrannan@umd.edu or 301-405-8746.

Chesapeake Energy Conference
November 11, 2008
Location: Howard County Fair Grounds
West Friendship, MD
A program to help the nursery, greenhouse, landscape and arborist industries investigate alternative energy sources and find ways to save money in their businesses.
Get Yourself Free From the Grid:
♦ What does it take to set up wind power at your nursery, greenhouse, landscape or arborist business?
♦ How efficient are the new solar panels coming to market?
♦ What incentive programs do the State and Federal governments have to help you install solar power in your operation?
♦ What are some of the low cost things you can do to save energy and money in tight times?
For a schedule and to register online go to http://mnlaonline.org/img/Final%20EnergyConference_Brochure.pdf
Conference Sponsors:
University of Maryland Cooperative Extension
Maryland Nursery and Landscape Association
Maryland Greenhouse Growers’ Association
Maryland Arborist Association

Educating People to Help Themselves
Local Governments • U.S. Department of Agriculture
The University of Maryland is equal opportunity. The University’s policies, programs, and activities are in conformance with pertinent Federal and State laws and regulations on nondiscrimination regarding race, color, religion, age, national origin, sex, and disability.
Vineyard Management Seminar Offered

Thinking of starting a vineyard on your property, or already have a vineyard … but can’t do all the work?

Planting a vineyard in Maryland can be an exciting and profitable business opportunity. The state is experiencing an exciting growth in winery development, which has created a major demand for Maryland-grown grapes. According to the Maryland Wineries Association, during the 2006 season, for every ton of Maryland-grown grapes used by Maryland wineries, approximately one and one-third tons had to be imported from other states in order to meet the need. Currently, Maryland has approximately 400 acres of grapes planted in approximately 120 vineyards and has 31 licensed wineries.

Due to the extensive attention and work required to create a quality vineyard, Maryland Grape Growers Association suggests that most potential vineyard owners will require assistance in order to seriously consider making the investment of time and energy. Grape growers and counties on the Eastern Shore have been discussing the feasibility of establishing a Vineyard Management Company (VMC).

A VMC works with landowners and growers who have an interest in establishing a vineyard operation, but who may not have the knowledge or interest in doing some or all of the work involved. A property owner or a grower can contract with the VMC to do whatever portion of the vineyard operation they choose not to do, including design, planting, maintenance and harvesting of the grape crop, or hire the VMC for consultation.

Because of the strong demand by Maryland wineries for Maryland-grown grapes, a properly established and maintained vineyard that produces quality grapes is virtually assured a market for its product. With local vineyards experiencing crops ranging from 3 tons to 5 tons per acre after 3 years of growth, and grape sales ranging from $800 to $1,500 per ton, a vineyard operation can prove to be a valuable long-term investment.

Sponsored by the Mid-Shore Regional Council and the Talbot Cooperative Extension, a seminar will be held on Friday, November 21st in Cordova to explore the process of establishing a vineyard, resources, and how a VMC might help you. Please call Talbot Cooperative Extension 410-822-1244 or sdill@umd.edu to reserve a spot.

Starting Your Vineyard…without all the work—A Vineyard Management Company Seminar

When: Friday, November 21, 2008

Time: 9:00 a.m. until Noon (Rain or Shine)

Where: Meadow View Farm & Vineyard
Located at the intersection of Three Bridge Branch Road and Cordova Road

Directions: From Rt. 50 turn onto Cordova Road (Rt. 309), take a left onto Three Bridge Branch Rd. You will be able to see the greenhouse and the vineyard.

Vineyard Seminar
Meadow View Farm & Vineyard
November 21, 2008
9:00 am

Vineyard Management Company Seminar

Agenda

• Dr. Kevin Atticks, Executive Director of Maryland Wineries Association will give an overview on the wine and grape industries in Maryland

• Paul Spies of Meadow View Farm will share his experience on establishing and managing a vineyard and discuss the concept of a vineyard management company

• Dr. Jerry White of Cornell University will present economics of operating a vineyard and discuss how a vineyard management company might affect it

• William Layton of Layton’s Chance Vineyard and Winery and Don Tillman of Tillman’s Island winery will discuss demand for Maryland grapes from the winery perspective
Southern Maryland Crops Conference  
December 4, 2008

The Southern Maryland Agents would like to invite everyone to join with our University specialists to have your questions answered about crop production and pest control at the Southern MD Crops Conference on December 4, 2008, 4:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Izaak Walton League Conference Center in Waldorf, MD.

Attendance at this conference will satisfy the requirement for the Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification & Nutrient Management Voucher. Catering by Randy’s Ribs
Registration Fee: $10

Please call the Charles County Extension Office at 301-934-5403 to register. Make plans now to attend.

Global Crop Sustainability & IPM Workshop  
Pesticide Recertification & Nutrient Management Voucher Training  
December 22, 2008

Make plans to attend the Global Crop Sustainability & IPM Workshop, Monday, December 22, 2008 at the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center (DFRC) from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This workshop will explore advanced crop production practices used around the world focusing on sustainability, food security and integrated pest management tactics. Topics will include: Crop selection; integrated crop management; soil fertility; weed control; insect control; and disease control for field crops, fruits and vegetables.

Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification & Nutrient Management Voucher Recertification will be awarded for full class participation.

To register for this event contact the Anne Arundel County Extension Office at 410 222-6759.

Maryland/Delaware Forage Council  
Southern MD Hay & Pasture Conference  
January 6, 2009

Make plans to attend the Southern Maryland Hay & Forage Conference, tentatively set for January 6, 2009, at the Izaak Walton League Conference Facility in Waldorf, MD. Topics will be presented covering all aspects of hay and pasture production. The programs will address key issues and concerns facing hay and pasture producers.

The conferences also features displays and exhibits by numerous agribusinesses. Attendees will be able to obtain information on seed, fertilizer, equipment, fencing, etc. needed for hay and pasture production and management.

More detailed program information on the Southern Maryland conference will soon be available on the Web at: http://www.mdforages.umd.edu or through local county Extension and NRCS/Soil Conservation District offices in Maryland. Register early to receive a discounted ticket. Registration at the door will cost you more.

Become a MD Certified Private Pesticide Applicator

If you have allowed your Private Pesticide Applicator Certification to expire or are a new applicant, then you are invited to attend the Private Pesticide Applicator Certification Training and Examination. It’s a two step process:
Step 1: A Private Applicator Certification Training will be conducted at the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center (DFRC) from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on January 12, 2009.

Step 2: A Private Pesticide Applicator Exam will be given at the Davidsonville Family and Recreation Center (DFRC) from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on January 26, 2009.

2009 Beekeeping 101
Mike Embrey, University of Maryland Extension Apiculturalist, 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 17, 2009 from 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon.

Registration fee is $100.00, which includes the textbook “The Beekeeper’s Handbook, Third Edition” by Diana Sammataro. If you have your own book, the fee will be $70.00.

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

The class will be held one Saturday per month through April. A final session will be held approximately the third week of September and will teach how to winterize and protect your hives and 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 7, 2009, 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.

Southern Maryland Vegetable & Fruit Production Meeting February 11, 2009
Make plans to attend the Southern Maryland Vegetable and Fruit Production Meeting on Wednesday, February 11, 2009. This year the meeting will be held in St. Mary’s County. This meeting will provide Private Applicator Recertification & Nutrient Management Voucher Recertification. Speakers will provide IPM updates and present on a broad range of production topics.

Also meeting sponsors will showcase their products and services, and state vegetable organization leaders will be present to recruit and answer your questions. Please attend and make this meeting the best ever. For full conference details, contact Ben Beale, Extension Agent, St. Mary’s County Extension Office, 410 222-6759.

Upper Marlboro Research Vineyard Pruning Clinic February 7, 2009
The University of Maryland Vineyard Team and the Maryland Grape Growers Association wish to invite you to attend the MGGA Upper Marlboro Research Vineyard Pruning Clinic to be held in February 7, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Upper Marlboro Research and Education Center located at 2005 Largo Road, in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. For more details and directions give me a call, or go to the MGGA web site at: http://www.marylandwine.com/

Field Crops & Pasture IPM Workshop March 16, 2009
Make plans to attend the Field Crops & Pasture IPM Workshop, Monday, March 16, 2009 at the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center (DFRC) from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This workshop will explore advanced concepts of pasture and field crop production in the Southern Maryland region from establishment to harvest, including animal utilization. Topics will include: Crop selection; integrated crop management; soil fertility; weed
control; insect control; and disease control for soybeans, corn, wheat, barley and hay crops.

Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification & Nutrient Management Voucher Recertification will be awarded for full class participation.

To register for this event contact the Anne Arundel County Extension at 410 222-6759.

New Live On-Line Session
Private Pesticide Applicator
Recertification
March 27, 2009

If you would like the opportunity to learn from home, yet still be engaged, then be sure to enroll in this New On-Line Private Pesticide Recertification Training, scheduled for March 27, 2009 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

The session will focus on pesticide use and related topics for all field crops, fruits and vegetables. This Adobe Connect recertification session will be live via the internet directly from the University of Maryland. Adobe Connect is a student interactive system that will document your attendance. To participate in a live Adobe Connect session a high speed cable or satellite internet connection is required.

Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification credit will be awarded for full 2-hour session participation. Registration by March 1st is required in order to receive Adobe Connect login instructions.

To register for this on-line event contact the Anne Arundel County Extension, 410 222-6759.

Advanced Agronomics Workshops:
I. Herbicide Technology
March 30, 2009

Every year offers a different challenge to the effectiveness of herbicides for controlling weeds in our field crops, vegetables and fruits. In order to better understand herbicide successes and failures we need to have a working knowledge of herbicide chemistry, environmental interaction and mode of action.

Make plans to attend the first of a series of Advanced Agronomic Workshops: I. Herbicide Technology scheduled for March 30, 2009 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the Anne Arundel County Extension office in Glen Burnie, MD.

This workshop is intended for farmers and crop professionals, taught at the college level, therefore, a familiarity with herbicides and their application is a prerequisite. Participants in this workshop will discover the importance of knowing herbicide chemical families; persistence of herbicides and interaction in the soil environment; and herbicide mechanism of weed control. We will use crop, soil and weather scenarios to understand and predict the effectiveness of herbicide applications. During our discussions we will reveal important herbicide soil and plant behaviors such as: mobility; water solubility; translocation; plant metabolism; mechanism of action; symptomology; soil half-life; environmental degradation; and vapor potential.

To register for this workshop or for more information contact Dave Myers at the Anne Arundel County Extension Office at 410 222-6759.
Maryland Soybean Rust Update

Soybean rust was discovered in a University of Delaware sentinel plot. The location upon review was determined to be just over the border and thus technically in Maryland in Worcester County, between Bishop, MD and Selbyville, DE. This is the first report of soybean rust in either Maryland or Delaware. The sentinel plot was a late-planted Group VII soybean deliberately chosen to provide green susceptible plant material late into the season. A sample was collected on October 23 and incubated until October 28. Debbie Parish of the Delaware Soybean Rust team examined the sample and determined there was a suspect soybean rust infection. Nancy Gregory, University of Delaware Plant Diagnostician and Bob Mulrooney, University of Delaware Plant Pathologist then examined the sample. They determined that there was one soybean rust pustule on one leaf out of the 100 leaf sample. Dr. Mary Palm, USDA-APHIS, confirmed the identification on October 29, 2008.

The primary significance of this find is to illustrate that soybeans in the Mid-Atlantic region can become infected with soybean rust given the right combination of events. However, his particular discovery has no direct implications for soybeans in our region. It happened at the very end of the growing season, and in fact frost (approx. Oct 20) had already damaged the upper most foliage of this extremely late soybean sentinel plot. There is no remaining green foliage in this sentinel plot and all commercial fields are in various stages of harvest. Furthermore, soybean rust is not seed-borne and has no overwintering mechanism other than survival on live host tissue, so the organism cannot establish itself in our region. Any infections that may occur in subsequent years will depend on reintroduction of spores from long distance. The key message to take from this find is that soybean rust can blow into our region and under the right combination of temperature, moisture and plant susceptibility could cause infection in our soybean crop. It will take a combination of unusual events to provide those favorable conditions earlier in a growing season to be a significant threat. Nevertheless, we must keep vigilant to protect this significant component of our agricultural economy.

I would like to personally thank and acknowledge the Delaware Soybean Rust team for their diligence, and friendly cooperation.

Arvydas (Arv) Grybauskas, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Extension Plant Pathologist
University of Maryland

Maryland Pest Net Update
October 31, 2008

Issue #13: Maryland Soybean Rust Update
http://www.mdipm.umd.edu/network/pestNet/index.cfm

Pest Net updates for MD, DE and VA can be accessed online at any time:
http://www.mdipm.umd.edu/network/pestNet/index.cfm

Grain Marketing Discussion Group

Commodity Markets Continue to Contract

Several things have happened this week that could be considered beneficial to commodity prices. On Tuesday, October 28th USDA revised the October Supply and Demand report for U.S. corn and soybeans and other crops (barley, oats, and sorghum). The revisions were slightly bullish for corn and soybean prices due to lower projected ending stocks for both corn and soybeans in the '08/'09 marketing year. The stock market has shown some improvement during the week, with the Dow currently trading at 9,117. On Wednesday, the Federal Reserve lowered the prime from 1.5 to 1.0 percent. The U.S. dollar index is still showing a decline of about 5 points off of recent highs, and the price of crude oil has fluctuated from $62 to near $67.00 per barrel. The lowering of the interest rate is expected to further decrease the value of the dollar which in turn could be beneficial to exports.

Speaking of exports, the revisions made to the U.S. Corn Supply/Demand balance sheet this week:
lowered the acres planted to corn by 1 million acres and acres harvested by 1 million acres; lowered the yield per harvested acre by 1/10 of a bushel to 153.9 bushels per acre reducing '08 corn production 166 million bushels from the October estimate, now projected at 12.033 billion bushels. On the demand side, feed and residual use was reduced 50 million bushels, and exports were reduced 50 million bushels. The end result being that the ending stocks estimate was only reduced by 66 million bushels, now estimated at 1.088 billion bushels. On the surface one has to wonder what the reductions in the export numbers had to do with a mistake attributed to the data used in the October report. All kinds of skepticism can be raised about the surprise mid-month, first of its kind, supply and demand revisions that were made on Tuesday. It may be that USDA has to make further revisions in the November report?

For U.S. soybeans, USDA lowered both acres planted and harvested by 1.1 million bushels each, resulting in a 45 million bushel reduction in the projection for U.S. soybean production. The estimate for U.S. soybean exports was reduced 30 million bushels. As a result, the ending stocks estimate was reduced 15 million bushels, now projected at 205 million bushels.

The new revised export projections for U.S. corn and soybeans (both lowered on Tuesday) are now 1.950 billion bushels for corn and 1.020 billion bushels for soybeans, 50 million and 30 million bushels less than on October 10th, respectively. It is important to reference the revision to the export numbers in order to keep things in perspective. For the week ending October 23rd, export sales for corn were reported at 16.3 million bushels, well below the range of estimates and the lowest weekly figure since mid-September. In the 7th week of the row crop marketing year, export sales for corn are behind that needed to be on pace with USDA's revised projection. Shipments are also running behind the pace needed.

Soybean exports, reported at 53.5 million bushels, are running well ahead of the sales and shipments pace needed to meet projections. Bear in mind that we are now working to achieve a lower projection for U.S. soybean exports (1.020 billion bushels). Export sales for all wheat, after only 20 weeks into the '08/'09 marketing year, are running 70 percent of USDA's projection of 1.0 billion bushels for all wheat exports.

**Marketing Strategy**

With price volatility running at high levels, we will continue to get large price swings in the commodities markets in the near term. Using declining export projections as an indication, we are experiencing a contractionary market. A market contracts when demand either slows or destructs. Since the present financial situation has not happened in our lifetimes, it is extremely difficult to get a handle on price direction. Farmers are going to need to get their production costs estimated for the 2009 cropping season in order to begin the process of deciding which crops to grow and to recognize opportunities for making sales decisions. Currently, Dec '08 corn futures are trading at $4.11; Nov '08 soybean futures at $9.25; and Dec '08 SRW wheat futures are trading at $5.40 per bushel. Dec '09 corn futures are trading at $4.67; Nov '09 soybean futures at $9.71; and July '09 SRW wheat futures are at $5.86 per bushel.

For **technical assistance** in making grain marketing decisions contact:

Carl L. German
Extension Crops Marketing Specialist
Department of Food & Resource Economics
208 Townsend Hall
University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716-2130
Phone: 302-831-1317   Fax: 302-831-6243
List owner<grn-mktgd@udel.edu>
"E-Grain Marketing Club"; and <www.agri-culturehealth.com> "Farm Retail/Wholesale Marketing Web Site".

Grn-mktgd mailing list
Grn-mktgd@UDel.Edu
http://udel.edu/mailman/listinfo/grn-mktgd
Ag Web Modules

New website features in Anne Arundel County - Agricultural Program Teaching Modules:
http://annearundel.umd.edu/AGNR/agmedia.cfm

1. Pasture Management
https://connect.moo.umd.edu/p12049696/

2. Pasture Herbicides
https://connect.moo.umd.edu/p13059797/

3. Handling Tall Fescue Toxicity Events
https://connect.moo.umd.edu/p59425434/

4. Modern Vegetable Production Technology for Early Market
https://connect.moo.umd.edu/p75657057/

5. Vegetable Herbicides for Controlling the Top 10 Weeds of Southern Maryland
https://connect.moo.umd.edu/p25962088/

6. Sustainable Low Input Strip-Till & No-Till Vegetable Planting Tactics
https://connect.moo.umd.edu/p55665058/

7. Fruit Establishment Tactics to Maximize Our Coastal Plain Advantage
https://connect.moo.umd.edu/p61165608/

8. Vineyard & Orchard Weed Control
https://connect.moo.umd.edu/p44883980/

9. Vineyard Establishment Supplies & Equipment
https://connect.moo.umd.edu/p48194311/

Other Updated County Website Features

Anne Arundel County Extension website:
http://annearundel.umd.edu/

Ag Newsletter Production Pointers

The current and past agricultural newsletter additions are available for viewing or copy at:
http://annearundel.umd.edu/AGNR/agnews.cfm

Ag Bulletins

An agricultural bulletin page is also available for viewing or copy under our hot topics section at:
http://annearundel.umd.edu/AGNR/agnews.cfm

College AGNR 150 Anniversary

Also relive the history of Extension and University of Maryland College of Agriculture Land Grant Mission by viewing the 150 Years Anniversary PowerPoint:
http://annearundel.umd.edu/files/University%20of%20Maryland%20150%20Year%20Anniversary.pps

Thanks for Partnering

Thanks for partnering with Maryland Cooperative Extension, and supporting our programs.

R. David Myers, Extension Educator
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Anne Arundel & Prince George’s Counties