PESTICIDE APPLICATOR RECERTIFICATION

If your Maryland Pesticide License will expire on December 31, 2012 it is time to attend recertification training. To facilitate RECERTIFICATION your Carroll County Extension office will have two separate RECERTIFICATION opportunities for you to attend - Rooms K, A, and B. They will be November 20, 2012, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, and February 12, 2013, 10am – Noon. Preregistration one week in advance is required. Call (410-386-2760) in to reserve your space as seating is limited and goes quickly. Be sure to bring your Pesticide License Number with you.

A third opportunity for Pesticide Recertification is being offered on December 6, 2012, 8:15 am -3:30 pm at the Northern Maryland Field Crops Day at Friendly Farms, Upperco, Maryland. More information on this meeting will follow in future issues of Farm Notes.

BECOME A MARYLAND 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 three step process:

Step 1: Register for the training by calling 410-386-2760 at least one week before training date. Stop by the Carroll County Extension Office (or any University of Maryland Extension office) to pick up a copy of the new Maryland Pesticide Applicator Core Manual. Read the manual and go over the review questions at the end of each chapter and practice exam.
**Step 2: Private Applicator Certification Training** will be conducted at the Carroll County Extension Office (Room K, A, and B) from **10:00 am – Noon on March 5, 2013**.

**Step 3: Private Pesticide Applicator Exam** will be given at the Carroll County Extension Office (Rooms K, A, and B) from **10:00 am – Noon on March 12, 2013**.

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**WILD & WOOLLY**


The newsletter is published in the months of October, January, April, and July by University of Maryland Extension (Western Maryland Research & Education Center).

*Source: Susan Schoenian, Sheep & Goat Specialist, University of Maryland Extension, sschoen@umd.edu*

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**MANURE STORAGE SAFETY TIPS**

Injuries and fatalities occur in confined space manure storages that are enclosed, such as beneath animal quarters; or below-ground reception and pump out pits; and in non-enclosed earthen, synthetic, or concrete lined manure storages. Non-enclosed manure storages are open to the atmosphere but may meet the definition of a confined space in terms of occupational safety and health based on storage design and employee exposure to hazards.

For more information see the attached brochure.

*Source: University of Wisconsin-Madison/Extension*

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**THE ECONOMICS OF LEGUME PLANTING**

When it comes to planting legumes for cattle forage, broadcasting is cheaper than drilling, but drilling provides the seedlings a better survival rate for these highly nutritious plants, said Dirk Philipp, assistant professor-forages, for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture.

Legumes, such as the annual crimson clover, or perennial white clover, are an important part of a cattle operation.

“They provide early forage with high nutritive value,” he said. “Legumes can also fix nitrogen from the atmosphere, which can benefit a producer two ways. One, it can be converted by the plants into protein for cattle, and two, it can potentially lower the cost of nitrogen fertilizers.”

Still, there are some challenges with legumes. “They’re site-specific and prefer a pH above 6,” Philipp said. “It’s also important to maintain adequate phosphorus and potassium levels in the soil.”

Then, there’s the expense.
“Some seed may be expensive, especially white clover, and in some cases seeds have to be inoculated,” he said, adding that “Seedbed preparation and drilling are additional costs.”

Researchers took a look at different modes of establishing both white and crimson clovers into Bermuda pastures to compare the costs of broadcasting the seed versus no-till drilling; seeding rates; whether the pasture was grazed before or after planting; and a combination of all the factors.

“Going in to this research, broadcasting seed followed by grazing was considered the low-cost alternative to other methods,” Philipp said.

In evaluating the methods, researchers recorded the number of seedlings per treatment, their winter survival and calculated the cost of establishing a stand of legumes.

Here’s what the researchers found:

- Rate of seedling survival depended on species, seeding rate, and planting method, but grazing had no effect on seedling emergence.
- No-till drilling resulted in higher rates of survival than broadcasting.
- Average winter seedling survival was 21 percent for low seeding rates and 17 percent for standard seeding rates. However, standard seeding rates had essentially twice as many seedlings per unit area than at low seeding rates.
- Crimson clover was more expensive, about $40 per acre, to establish than white clover, ($30 per acre) on average.
- Reducing the seedling rate by half did not reduce the cost of establishment by the same factor. For example, no-till drill establishment of crimson clover at standard seeding rate was $53 per acre, and $34 per acre for a low seeding rate. And when compared to broadcasting crimson clover, the cost is $45 at standard seeding rate, vs. $27 for the low rate.

Philipp said that “given the number of seedlings that are about twice as high under no-till drilling than broadcasting, then this is a compelling case for using a no-till drill as this method will give not only the best results agronomically, but that also makes the most sense economically.”

He added that the trend was also true for white clover: “here we had $40 and $29 for no-till drilling, and $32 and $21 for broadcasting.

When it comes to using the no-till drill, Philipp said the drills should be set with utmost care and the planting depths for clover seed shouldn’t exceed one-quarter to one-half inch.

And as for grazing before or after, “although no grazing effects were observed, pasture canopies should always be kept short before planting, no matter what method is used,” he said. “Canopies can be kept short by mowing or grazing.”

Source: University of Arkansas Press Release. www.uaex.edu
DATES TO REMEMBER

November 20  **Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification**—6 to 8 pm, Carroll County Extension Office, 700 Agriculture Center, Westminster, MD, Call to register at 410-386-2760

December 6  **Northern Maryland Field Crops Day**—8:15 to 3:30pm, Friendly Farms, 17434 Foreston Road, Upperco, MD, Call the Baltimore County Extension Office at 410-771-1761 to register.

February 2  **Mid-Atlantic Small Flock Poultry Expo**—8:30 to 3:30 pm, Carroll County Extension Office & Carroll County Ag Center, 700 Agriculture Center, Westminster, MD, Contact 410-386-2760 or carroll.umd.edu/ag/poultry.cfm

February 12  **Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification**—10 to Noon, Carroll County Extension Office, 700 Agriculture Center, Westminster, MD, Call to register at 410-386-2760

March 5  **Private Pesticide Applicator Certification Training**—10 to Noon, Carroll County Extension Office, 700 Agriculture Center, Westminster, MD, Call to register at 410-386-2760

March 12  **Private Pesticide Applicator Certification Exam**—10 to Noon, Carroll County Extension Office, 700 Agriculture Center, Westminster, MD, Call to register at 410-386-2760


Yours for better farming from your  Carroll County Agriculture Extension Educators,

Michael R. Bell  Bryan R. Butler, Sr.  Steve Allgeier  
Extension Agent  Extension Agent  Extension Educator  
Agriculture & Natural Resources  Commercial Horticulture/  Home Horticulture/  
mbell@umd.edu  Mid-MD Tree Fruit  Master Gardener Coordinator  
hortman@umd.edu  bbutlers@umd.edu  

If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please call: 410-386-2760 or 1-888-326-9645.  
If you have a disability that requires special assistance for your participation in a program please contact the Carroll County Extension Office at 410-386-2760, Fax: 410-876-0132, two weeks prior to the program.

The information given herein is supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by University of Maryland Extension is implied.
Non-Enclosed Manure Storage Safety Tips

Injuries and fatalities occur in confined space manure storages that are enclosed, such as beneath animal quarters; or below-ground reception and pump out pits; and in non-enclosed earthen, synthetic, or concrete lined manure storages. Non-enclosed manure storages are open to the atmosphere but may meet the definition of a confined space in terms of occupational safety and health based on storage design and employee exposure to hazards.

In the case of non-enclosed manure storage, hazards may include:

- A thick liquid and floating crust that make swimming, buoyancy, or even moving around very difficult.
- Steep and slippery slopes that can make getting out of manure storages difficult or impossible.
- An acceleration of hazardous gases (primarily methane, hydrogen sulfide, carbon dioxide, and ammonia) released from manure due to movement, agitation, removal, or addition of manure to storage.
- Localized layers of hazardous gases existing above manure surfaces, especially on hot, humid days with little to no breeze.
- Not having sufficient oxygen to breathe if a person is ‘treading’ in manure because of inability to get out.
- Not being able to see into depths of manure like you can with clear water.
- A slow response time for adequate emergency actions because of site isolation and remoteness.
- Potentially hazardous equipment in and around the manure storage.

Safety guidelines to follow:

- Make sure everyone near manure storage structures understands the hazards that exist, including symptoms and effects that the various manure gases have on their health.
- Explosive gas may settle in pockets near where agitation or pumping is occurring. No smoking, open flames or sparks should be allowed.

OSHA requires warning signs to be posted in English but a recommended safety practice is to post in additional language based on your workforce.
• Make sure the non-enclosed manure storage has a fence installed around the perimeter and access gates are locked to keep unauthorized personnel from entering the area.

• Post warning signs including manure drowning hazard signs and "Danger Manure Storage" or "Danger Keep Out," or "Danger Keep Away." on all sides of non-enclosed manure storage. If possible, these signs should be located by gates.

• Keep bystanders and non-essential workers away from non-enclosed manure storage or other accessible areas during when pump out operations are in progress.

• Wear a safety harness with life-line attached to a safely located solid object or anchor at any time you enter the fenced in area of non-enclosed manure storage. If retrieval is needed, this equipment will improve the possibility of a successful rescue.

• Never work alone. The second person’s role is to summon help in an emergency and assist with rescue without entering the manure storage.

• Move slowly around unenclosed manure storages as the ground can sometimes be uneven and may cause a person to trip or stumble.

• Understand equipment being used and have emergency shut-down procedures prepared.

• If equipment malfunctions or maintenance is required during agitating or pumping of the manure, shut all equipment off and remove it from the manure storage before servicing or repairing.

• If you feel unsure or uncomfortable with what you are getting ready to do near the manure storage; wait a moment and reconsider the action, contact a supervisor or farm manager, and review the situation before proceeding.

• Be prepared to call 911 in case of an emergency. Being prepared includes providing specific directions to the site of the emergency, accurately describing the incident, and number of victims.

Adapted from Open Air Manure Safety Storage Tips, Penn State University, June 2012. Authors: Dennis J. Murphy, Extension Safety Specialist, Agricultural and Biological Engineering; Robert Meinen, Senior Extension Associate, Animal Science Department, Davis E. Hill, Senior Extension Associate, Agricultural and Biological Engineering.

UW Madison, Biological Systems Engineering Contributors:
Cheryl A. Skjolaas, Interim Director/ Agricultural Safety Specialist, UW CTR for Agricultural Safety and Health
David Kammel, Extension Agriculture Building Design Specialist
Brian Holmes, Extension Farmstead Engineering Specialist
Rebecca Larson, Extension Bio-Waste Specialist

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison/Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements.

September, 2012
Attention all producers of hay, corn, soybeans and small grains you are invited to attend the 2012 Baltimore County Field Crops Day Meeting on
Thursday, December 6, 2012.

Presentation topics will be announced later.

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:
8:15 am: Registration and time to visit commercial exhibits and refreshments
9:00 am – 3:30 pm: Presentations topics

Cost:
$15.00 if you pre-register, or $25.00 at the door, includes a lunch. Space is limited reserve your ticket early.

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 410-771-1761.

Program Registration Form (Detach and Return this portion)

Name: ____________________________ Email: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________

Phone: ____________________________

Payment: # attending x $15.00 = $

Make checks payable to BCEAC. Detach this form, and send it with payment to Baltimore County Extension Office, Field Crops Day, 1114 Shawan Road, Suite 2, Cockeysville, MD 21030.

University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, gender, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, or national origin.