

Farm Notes

Winter 2015

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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 the 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. There is one opportunity left this year to take the training and test:

Step 2: Private Applicator Certification Training will be conducted at the Carroll County Extension Office from **6-8 pm on February 5, 2015** from **10-Noon**.

Step 3: Private Pesticide Applicator Exam will be given at the Carroll County Extension Office from **6 – 8 pm on February 12, 2015** from **10 – Noon**.

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR RECERTIFICATION

If your Maryland Pesticide License will expire on December 31, 2014 it is time to attend recertification training. To facilitate RECERTIFICATION your Carroll County Extension office will have one more RECERTIFICATION opportunity for you to attend on **March 4, 2015, 6 – 8 pm**. Preregistration one week in advance is required. Call (410-386-2760) in early to reserve your space as seating is limited and goes quickly. **Be sure to bring your Pesticide License Number** with you.

INOCULATION OF SOYBEAN TO IMPROVE YIELDS NITROGEN MANAGEMENT FOR SOYBEAN

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In many cases, growers will see more yield benefit from applying one of the new improved strains of Bradyrhizobia inoculant than they would from applying supplemental N. Growers should consider applying one of the new high efficiency strains of Bradyrhizobia to the seed every second or third time soybeans are planted. Many soybean yield trial winners report that they apply fresh inoculum to every soybean crop planted. With the new liquid inoculants, the time and expense of applying soybean inoculant is much less than that experienced in the past. Many of the soybean fields in Delaware were found to contain strains of Bradyrhizobia that were either very inefficient at fixing N or actually produced toxins that could reduce soybean yield according to a Delaware Soybean Board project many years ago.

Soybeans are leguminous plants that are able to fix atmospheric N. In general, fixed N and soil N should be adequate to meet the N requirements of soybean. Growers are unlikely to see yield increases when applying supplemental fertilizer or manure N to soybean, except in the case of high-yielding, irrigated soybeans. In fact, application of supplemental N to soybeans is more likely to result in wasted money and increased risk to the environment. Under some circumstances, application of supplemental N could also reduce yields leading to an economic loss to the farmer. In most cases, application of a good inoculant will be more beneficial than applications of commercial N fertilizer or manure. Growers should consider applications of supplemental N only when yield of irrigated soybean consistently exceed 60 bu/ac.

SWD MONITORING FOR 2014

By Bryan Butler

Our monitoring efforts began in early June and I attempted to cover as many types of soft fruit as I could, so I selected 2 orchards with the most crop diversity I could logistically handle. Traps were deployed and monitored on a weekly basis until the fruit was gone, and a fruit sample of each crop was taken at peak harvest time. This year we used the new Trece lure plus apple cider vinegar (ACV) and with it we caught more SWD than the usual assortment of fruit flies and we caught African Fruit Flies (AFF) in Aug for the first time, rather than the end of September. AFF has not proven to be a pest because of its short ovipositor and we now think they don't overwinter in our area, but fly in from the South each season. The reason is that they are mostly tropical in range and can't tolerate the cold winters. As for SWD, it appears that the females are the colonizers since we see more of them in new crops than males, as we would pick up females first as the crop ripened, and



then more males later, and mostly males when the crop was done. These samples were taken to the fruit lab in Biglerville where any larva in the fruit were given a chance to develop and were then identified and counted.

The good news from 2011, 12, 13 and 14 was that it appeared well managed crops like tart cherries, sweet cherries, strawberries (both plasticulture and matted row) and black raspberries made it through with little to no damage in Central and Western Maryland. Having said that, I would like to address the term “well managed.” In plantings that were not harvested in a timely fashion or received little or no insecticide applications, problems have arisen. Another important point here is to be sure there is positive identification of this pest. In all of the early cases where SWD was first detected it could be associated with a management issue. Although SWD was identified in the samples, there were significant numbers of other types of fruit flies that were found in the fruit when the larva were reared in a laboratory.

Now as for blackberries, later blueberry varieties and primocane bearing raspberries, even well managed plantings, began to run into trouble, particularly as the season progressed. What was not expected in 2014 was that the numbers in MD grapes were very high. This was my first year monitoring grapes and I feel grape growers will need to keep an eye on SWD in the future. Our first trap detection was June 14th in 2012 and June 21st in 2013 and July 1st in 2014 in Central Maryland, and there were already larva in the fruit in blackberries. The traps are a tool that help, but in the end I found myself simply breaking up a lot of fruit and looking closely for the larva in the fruit if I really wanted to know what was going on in a planting. Populations generally increased all summer and into the fall with what appeared to be drops during extended very hot periods.

The take home message is that SWD is going to pose a serious challenge to small fruit producers but is not the end of the world. The intensity of management in small fruit will certainly increase in order to produce fruit without “worms”. It appears to be critical from my personal experiences and those shared with me from other states that this pest must be addressed early and not allowed to get a good foothold in your planting. Through trapping, scouting, timely harvest, sanitation and consistent insecticide applications that provide thorough coverage, including the lower part of the plant once the infestations are identified, production and quality can be maintained. In the long run, hopefully sooner than later, research will identify beneficials and predators that will create a more natural balance with this pest that will help reduce pesticide application. However, for now it is important to remember to be on the lookout in small fruit as soon as fruit begins to show color because it appears this is a pest that is more readily held to acceptable levels if caught early. If it becomes very established in a planting, control can become almost impossible.

Thorough coverage with both pressure and water volume is critical, a seven day schedule seemed to work best.

Below are some products that have efficacy against SWD. Please read and understand the label on all the products and make sure they **fit for your crop and your harvest schedule**. This is not an all-inclusive listing, and please check the label before applying. **To avoid resistance**, consider using the same product twice in a row then switching to a different material in a different group and using that twice in a row and following that pattern to avoid resistance development.

Good, shorter residual-about 3 days
Delegate 25WG- Caneberries, Blueberries, Cherries
Malathion 8F- Caneberries, Cherries, Blueberries
Pyganic EC- Blueberries, Caneberries, Cherries
Good, use for rotations 3-7 days



Entrust SC- Blueberries, Caneberries, Cherries
Sevin- Blueberries, Caneberries, Cherries
Assail- Blueberries, Cherries, Caneberries

Good, longer residuals 7-14 days depending on conditions
Danitol- Blueberries, Cherries, Caneberries,
Mustang Max- Caneberries, Cherries
Bifenture- Caneberries,
Imidan 70WP- Blueberries, Cherries
Lannate 90SP- Blueberries

Exira- New blueberry product for 2014

Be sure to read the label and make sure the crop is on the label and be aware of REI and PHI, as well as other limits on the label as far as number of applications and amounts allowed on a crop per season.

These scouting efforts were made possible substantially partly through funding by the Maryland State Horticulture Society (MSHS). MSHS provided the bulk of the money required to cover the travel needed to these sites each week and to take samples for positive identification to the Penn State Fruit Lab in Biglerville, PA.

PUMPKIN 2014 TIMELINE FOR WMREC KEEDYSVILLE, MD

This was the third year for this project looking at spray programs for pumpkins at WMREC and at the Wye. Dr. Kate Everts is the Principle Investigator on this project, and Mike Newell at the Wye and Doug Price at Keedysville have done a great job keeping this project afloat. For this season, although the data has not been analyzed yet, what really stood out to me was stem quality. The field had No spray blocks, IPM blocks and Premium spray program blocks. Although it appears yields were not that different, the quality of the stems in the premium blocks was vastly superior to the other blocks. They not only looked better but they were significantly stronger. Kate will have more on this but I wanted to provide our program as I promised at the WMREC twilight in August.

6/3/14 - planted pumpkins
6/4/14 – sprayed Strategy + Roundup PowerMax
6/24/14 – applied Macho 2.0 drench
7/10/14 – All Treatments – Bravo Weather Stik + Thionex 3EC
7/22/14 – IPM Treatments – Bravo Weather Stik + Kocide 4.5 LF
Premium Treatments - Bravo Weather Stik + Rally 40 WSP
7/31/14 – IPM Treatments – Bravo Weather + Kocide 4.5 LF + Quintec
Premium Treatments - Bravo Weather Stik + Rally 40 WSP
8/8/14 – IPM Treatments – Bravo Weather Stik
Premium Treatments - Bravo Weather Stik + Quintec + Presidio
8/18/14 – IPM Treatments – Bravo Weather Stik + Kocide 4.5LF
Premium Treatments – Bravo Weather Stik + Rally 40 WSP + Ranman
8/30/14 – IPM Treatments – Bravo Weather Stik + Quintec + Asana XL
Premium Treatments – Bravo Weather Stik + Quintec + Presidio + Asana XL
9/8/14 – IPM Treatments – Bravo Weather Stik + Asana XL
Premium Treatments – Bravo Weather Stik + Rally 40 WSP + Ranman + Asana XL
10/1/14 – Harvest



SOYBEAN PERFORMANCE TESTS ONLINE

The Pennsylvania Soybean Variety Trial summary has been released for trials conducted in Blair, Centre and Lancaster Counties.

http://extension.psu.edu/plants/crops/news/2015/01/soybean-performance-tests-online?utm_campaign=Field+Crop+News&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&utm_content=newsletter_title

FORAGE VARIETY TRIALS REPORT AVAILABLE

Penn State has released performance data summary of alfalfa and cool-season forage grass variety trials conducted in 2014.

http://extension.psu.edu/plants/crops/news/2015/01/forage-variety-trials-report-available?utm_campaign=Field+Crop+News&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&utm_content=newsletter_title

INCORPORATING SURROUND® INTO AN IPM PROGRAM FOR CONTROL OF BMSB IN APPLES

By Bryan Butler, Doug Price

I have continued my work with Surround® and “soft insecticides” for the 2014 season on apple and peaches. Although that data is not in yet, I wanted to share some of the information from the 2014 season. BMSB pressure appears to have been relatively light this season with the big migration to homes occurring the third and fourth weeks of September in Central Maryland.

Following the 2010 growing season with its devastating losses in peaches and apples caused by Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB), many growers in Maryland were ready to use any chemistry required to produce a crop in 2011. The 2011 season proved to be frustrating for growers that experienced BMSB infestations with regard to: pick your own spray schedules, days to harvest, IPM programs being damaged by broad spectrum pesticide application leading to loss of beneficial insects, increased exposure to high toxicity products, cost, increased number of applications, fuel, time, loss of some of these products, and public perception. Thus growers have been forced to spend significantly more on production costs such as labor, fuel, materials, and maintenance.

This project examines the potential to return to pre-2009 timing, interval, and material selection by incorporating Surround® as a tool to combat our newest and most insidious pest Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB).

Current recommendations for the control of BMSB in apples include the use of Synthetic Pyrethroids, Organochlorines and Organophosphates. These chemical families have been replaced in orchard spray programs in recent years by products with more specific modes of action that are generally less harmful to beneficial organisms. The use of the more general insecticides that appear to reduce the level of BMSB damage may potentially lead to the destruction of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs that have been in place for



nearly thirty years as beneficial populations are decimated. The purpose of this experiment is to determine if the addition of Surround® (an organically certified kaolin clay product) to insecticide materials used to control traditional orchard pests can reduce the level of damage to fruit caused by BMSB.

The Surround® was used at a rate of 12.5 pounds per 100 gallons as a tank mix that may be acting as a repellent or tactile deterrent and could offer greater protection of the fruit, particularly if used as a bridge treatment between or a replacement for insecticide applications, or as part of a push-pull management strategy. Thus, the addition of the clay to the surface of the fruit and foliage may result in behavioral modification of BMSB. It is well documented that BMSB is very mobile and moves into the orchard causing the most severe damage on the perimeter rows. The clay barrier from Surround® could be deterring BMSB from moving into the orchard, or possibly reduce the time spent in the trees, leading to a reduction in feeding damage. In order to examine this, samples evaluated were paired with samples from trees in similar positions in the orchard, i.e. exterior bordering to corn, exterior bordering woods, and interior. This was done to compare fruit that should be receiving comparable pressure from BMSB based on the environment.

The insecticide applications were made based on an IPM program using traditional monitoring tools for lepidopteron pests with visual observations for BMSB being added to the program and material selection being based on need for control of the pests present. Pheromone traps for Coddling Moth, Tufted Apple Bud Moth and Oriental Fruit Moth were placed in the block and monitored weekly to determine need for application. BMSB were monitored using three minute surveys of five trees weekly to determine presence and damage to fruit.

Half of the trees received the program without Surround® added and half received the program with Surround® added. Fifty fruit per tree were destructively sampled at harvest and, although damage was still above what would be considered acceptable economic threshold, severity of damage was very low, yielding a high percentage of salable fruit.

Although we are in the process of evaluating the data, initially it appears that there was nearly 30% less damage by BMSB on the fruit that received the program with Surround® and larger differences when like replicates are paired for comparison.

In our Red Haven peach block we had no BMSB pressure at all this season. Weekly counts and end of season evaluation of the fruit showed extremely low levels of injury with brown stink bugs being the stink bug we did find in the block just before harvest time but no BMSB.

Our apple data for 2014 on our Goldrush block is not in but for 2013 pressure was overall light from BMSB. We did find BMSB in the block later in the season and did have damage to fruit. Unfortunately, the Surround® treatments did not all hold up well and what I found interesting was that a late Brigade without application on our Pink Lady provided much cleaner fruit (<2%) damage compared to up to 80% in some of the treated Goldrush replications.

After three years working on this project I am forming an opinion that using Surround® early may be very helpful as we work our way through the initial incursion from BMSB but later in the season when pressure gets heavy with that fresh population the use of Brigade or Venom or similarly effective products is the way to go to ensure clean fruit at harvest.

This work will continue as we try to provide adequate control with the softest possible program.

2014 APPLE TIMELINE

4/3/14 – Late dormant – Lorsban Advanced + Damoil + Copper
4/14/14 – Tight cluster – Manzate Pro-Stick + Inspire Super
4/24/14 – Pink – Manzate Pro-Stick + Scala + Imidan 70W
5/1/14 – Bloom – Manzate Pro-Stick + Procure 480 SC + Agri-Mycin 17
5/8/14 – Petal fall – Manzate Pro-Stick + Syllit FL + Agri-Mycin 17 + Imidan 70W
5/16/14 – Thinning spray – Sevin XLR Plus (Pink Lady only)
Maxcel (Gala and Fuji only)
5/19/14 – 1st cover – Manzate Pro-Stick + Rally 40WSP + Agri-Mycin 17 + Assail 30 SG + Surround[®] WP
5/30/14 – 2nd cover – Manzate Pro-Stick + Vanguard WG + Imidan 70W + MicroFine Sulfur + Surround[®] WP
6/9/14 – 3rd cover – Captan 50W + Vanguard WG + Actara + Surround[®] WP
6/20/14 – 4th cover – Flint + Imidan 70W + Surround[®] WP
7/1/14 – 5th cover – Flint + Assail 30 SG + Surround[®] WP
7/10/14 – 6th cover – Captan 50W + Rally 40WSP + Imidan 70W + Surround[®] WP
7/22/14 – 7th cover - Captan 50W + Topsin M WSB + Ziram 76 DF + Assail 30 SG + Surround[®] WP
7/31/14 – 8th cover – Pristine +Imidan 70W + Surround[®] WP
8/11/14 – 9th cover – Captan 50W + Topsin M WSB +Ziram 76 DF+ Surround[®] WP
8/21/14 – 10th cover – Pristine + Belay
9/2/14 – 11th cover – Captan 50W + Topsin M WSB + Ziram 76 DF + Actara
9/10/14 – 12th cover Pristine +Brigade WSB (Fuji and Pink Lady only)
Pristine + Belay (Goldrush and Enterprise)

Sprayer calibrated for 100 gpa

2014 PEACH TIMELINE

4/3/14 – Late dormant – Damoil + Lime Sulfur Solution
4/14/14 – Pink – Micro Fine Sulfur
4/25/14 – Bloom – Bravo Weather Stik
5/1/14 – Late Bloom – Vanguard WG
5/8/14 – Petal fall –Bravo Weather Stik + Imidan 70W + Surround[®] WP
5/19/14 – Shuck split –Indar 2F + Captan 50W + Assail SG + Surround[®] WP
5/30/14 – 1st cover – Topsin M WSB + Imidan 70W + MicroFine Sulfur + Surround[®] WP
6/9/14 – 2nd cover – Indar 2F + Alticor + Surround[®] WP
6/20/14 – 3rd cover – Captan 50W + Topsin M WSB + Imidan 70W + Surround[®] WP
7/1/14 – 4th cover – Indar 2F + Sevin XLR Plus + Surround[®] WP
7/10/14 – 5th cover – Elevate 50 WDG + Sevin XLR Plus + Surround[®] WP
7/22/14 – 6th cover - Captan 50W + Topsin M WSB + Sevin XLR Plus + Assail 30 SG + Surround[®] WP
7/30/14 – First harvest and data collected
7/31/14 – 7th cover – Indar 2F
8/4/14 – Final harvest

Sprayer calibrated for 100 gpa

THE 2014 MARYLAND CORN HYBRID PERFORMANCE TEST REPORT HAS BEEN POSTED TO:

<http://www.psla.umd.edu/extension/md-crops>

Unfortunately, you can no longer get to this and other crop production information by simply going to mdcrops.umd.edu. This URL was lost as a result of the University getting hacked. Please make the URL one of your bookmarks for easy access.

MD EXTENSION SMALL RUMINANT PROGRAM WEBINAR SERIES

Each year, the University of Maryland Extension Small Ruminant Program conducts a winter webinar series. The 2015 winter webinar series will focus on pasture management for small ruminant producers.

Five webinars will be conducted on consecutive Wednesday evenings in February and March. The instructors will be Jeff Semler and Susan Schoenian. All webinars will start at 7:00 p.m. EST and last for one hour. An additional 30 minutes will be allotted for questions. Interaction will be via a chat box. For more information, go to <http://www.sheepandgoat.com/programs/2015webinars.html>

SPRAYER CLINIC & PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION

A Sprayer Clinic & Pesticide Recertification will be held on February 11th at the Shipley Arena at the Carroll County Ag Center, 706 Agricultural Center Drive, Westminster, MD 21157. To register by February 2nd by emailing agclinics@finchinc.com or call Mary at Finch Services at 410-848-7211.

Agenda

8:30 - 9:00 Check in/Registration

9:00-9:45 Pesticide Application Procedures

Short Break

10:00-12:00 Sprayer Service Clinic & AMS Technology Finch Services

12:15-1:00 Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 Pesticide Recertification Update & Q&A



MANAGEMENT OF WINTER FEEDING SYSTEMS TO MEET YOUR LIVESTOCK'S NEEDS AND CONSERVATION GOALS

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During November, most livestock producers in West Virginia decide the number and type of livestock they plan to keep during the winter. The availability of fall pasture, the amount of stored feed, and the quality of the feed will help the farmer determine the number of livestock to retain. A winter feeding system then needs to be designed to meet the livestock's needs and to protect natural resources.

This feeding system should accomplish several objectives:

1. minimize livestock feeding in concentrated areas near water bodies during late fall, winter, and early spring when frequent snow and rain runoff occurs;
2. improve the use of pastureland;
3. reduce soil erosion;
4. maintain water quality; and
5. Improve the health of the livestock.

Reducing the amount of time cattle spend close to surface waters is important to protect water quality. Operations that discharged pollutants (sediment and bacteria) into surface waters potentially will be fined or even designated as Animal Feeding Operations and required to apply for a NPDES permit. Many options are available to farmers to improve management of riparian areas, including CREP, NRCS EQIP livestock exclusion practice. The use of temporary electric fence systems are also a good method of keeping cattle away from surface streams if flood events are frequent and fencing systems are likely lost or damaged during high water events. Single strand high tensile electric fencing is an economical and effective way to protect stream corridors. It is unlikely to trap debris during flooding. These fences should be located a minimum of 35 feet from surface streams and sinkhole areas to allow the riparian or sod buffers to capture the sediment, nutrients, and pathogens that escape the feeding areas during runoff.

The sod buffers that are located down slope of a feeding area should have cattle excluded during the fall to allow the grass to grow to a 6-inch height.

This thickened stand of grass will reduce sediment transport during storm runoff. The critical feeding areas that are left with no vegetation should be reseeded at recommended rates as soon as cattle are moved in the spring. Seed can be incorporated into the disturbed area by letting livestock walk it in or seeding followed by dragging a chain harrow through the feeding area.

Rotated Winter Feeding Areas

A permanent feeding areas needs a system to collect, store, and then apply the accumulated animal waste. A properly designed permanent feeding area will have a method (a diversion ditch or earthen berm) to restrict water flowing into the area. Using sawdust or straw or waste hay on concrete pads is recommended to absorb liquids and improve footing for the livestock. A feeding area that is roofed needs a gutter and drainage system to keep water from accumulating with the animal waste. For permanent feeding areas that store manure, a nutrient management plan needs to be developed and followed to best utilize the nutrients for crop production while protecting water quality.



Winter feeding strategies that move the herd every 30 or 40 days during the winter needs to be considered even if a farm has a roofed winter feeding area with manure storage. Most roofed winter feeding facilities cannot store all the manure generated during the winter period. Temporary feeding areas, managed correctly, maintain some vegetation and tend to recover quickly. Locate feeding areas so livestock have a protected area away from winter winds. Areas with more than 50% loss of vegetative cover need to be reseeded in the spring.

Extending the grazing season as long as possible is the best way to reduce the time that cattle spend in the feedlot. Stockpiling tall fescue during the fall and then grazing off this accumulated forage during December and January keeps the cattle on the pasture and out of the feedlot. Deferred grazing is a good addition to a winter feeding program and can be accomplished with an August application of nitrogen on tall fescue.

Waterborne bacteria can affect herd health when streams and ponds are used for livestock watering. Herds can pick up bovine leptospirosis and mastitis from this type of water source. Use streams and ponds only if no alternative watering source is available. To reduce stream and pond bank erosion, design a single access point for the cattle that is stabilized with stone.

Designing a winter feeding system that ensures the health of the livestock, returns a profit to the farm, and protects the environment is an increasing challenge to the producer. For help in putting all the parts together visit your USDA NRCS district conservationist, for a conservation planning and County Extension agent for a feed management evaluation.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- January 20 **Grow It Eat It Gardening Class, Seed Starting & Transplanting; Choosing The Right Tools; Cooking Demo**-6:30 to 9 pm, Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster MD, Call 410-386-2760 for more info.
- January 23 **Central Maryland Vegetable Growers Meeting**-8 to 3:30 pm, Friendly Farms, 17434 Foreston Rd, Upperco, MD, Cost is \$15 per person in advance, \$25 at the door and you can call to register at 410-771-1761 or email eblake@umd.edu
- January 27 **Grow It Eat It Gardening Class, Herbs; Container Gardening; Cooking Demo**-6:30 to 9 pm, Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster MD, Call 410-386-2760 for more info.
- February 3 **Grow It Eat It Gardening Class, Intensive Gardening; Integrated Pest Management; Cooking Demo**-6:30 to 9 pm, Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster MD, Call 410-386-2760 for more info.
- February 5 **Private Pesticide Applicator Test Training**-10 to Noon, Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster, MD, Call 410-386-2760 to register.
- February 5 **Agribusiness Breakfast**-Faith & Agriculture by Sam Chamelin, 8 to 9 am, Baughers Restaurant, Westminster, MD, Must pre-register at 410-386-2760 to attend.
- February 10 **Grow It Eat It Gardening Class, Pollination & Pollinators; Good Bugs & Bad Bugs; Cooking Demo**-6:30 to 9 pm, Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster MD, Call 410-386-2760 for more info.
- February 11 **Sprayer Clinic & Pesticide Recertification**-9 to 2 pm, Shipley Arena, Carroll County Ag Center, 706 Agricultural Center Drive, Westminster, MD 21157. Please register by February 2nd by emailing agclinics@finchinc.com or call Mary at Finch Services at 410-848-7211.
- February 12 **Private Pesticide Applicator Test**-10 to Noon, Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster, MD, Call 410-386-2760 to register.

- February 17 **Grow It Eat It Gardening Class, Extending The Season; Yields & Harvesting; Cooking Demo**-6:30 to 9 pm, Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster MD, Call 410-386-2760 for more info.
- February 21 **MD Organic Food & Farming Association Winter Meeting**-8 to 5 pm, MD Dept. of Agriculture, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD To register: [2015 MOFFA WINTER MEETING REGISTRATION FORM pdf](#)
- February 24 **Grow It Eat It Gardening Class, Gardening With Heirlooms; Vegetable of the Year: Beans; Cooking Demo**-6:30 to 9 pm, Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster MD, Call 410-386-2760 for more info.
- February 28 **2015 Maryland Dairy Convention**- FSK Mall Holiday Inn, Frederick, MD
- March 3 **Grow It Eat It Gardening Class, Tomatoes; Small Fruits & Tree Fruits; Cooking Demo**-6:30 to 9 pm, Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster MD, Call 410-386-2760 for more info.
- March 4 **Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification**-6 to 8 pm, Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster, MD, Call 410-386-2760 to register.
- March 5 **Agribusiness Breakfast**-Agriculture Law by University Of MD Law Center, 8 to 9 am, Baughers Restaurant, Westminster, MD, Must pre-register at 410-386-2760 to attend.
- March 6-7 **Maryland Cattle Industry Annual Convention and Annual Maryland Hay and Pasture Conference**, Clarion Hotel and Hager Hall Conference and Event Center, Hagerstown, MD. For more information, visit their website at www.marylandcattle.org or contact Dr. Scott Barao at 410-795-5309 or by email at sbarao@marylandcattle.org
- March 11-12 **Northeast Pasture Consortium**, Waterfront Place Hotel and the Greater Morgantown Conference & Convention Center, Morgantown, WV. Contact James Cropper at jbcropper@yahoo.com for more information.
- March 13-14 **2015 Appalachian Grazing Conference**, Waterfront Place Hotel and the Greater Morgantown Conference & Convention Center in Morgantown, WV. Contact West Virginia University Cooperative Extension for more information.
- April 2 **Agribusiness Breakfast**-Medical Marijuana, 8 to 9 am, Baughers Restaurant, Westminster, MD, Must pre-register at 410-386-2760 to attend.
- May 7 **Agribusiness Breakfast**-to be announced
- June 4 **Agribusiness Breakfast**-An Overview of a Large Dairy Operation by Matt Hoff, 8 to 9 am, Baughers Restaurant, Westminster, MD, Must pre-register at 410-386-2760 to attend.
- December 13-16 **6th National Conference on Grazing Lands**, Grapevine, TX. For more information, please contact: John W. Peterson, 6NCGL Conference Manager at (703) 455-4387 (w), (703) 505-1782 (c) 703-455-6888 (f) or jwpeterson@cox.net

Visit our web site at <http://extension.umd.edu/carroll-county>

For more event listings visit

<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/AGNRCalendar/>

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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.

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 12/31/2014

Starting a Small, Intensive, Commercial Farm for Local Markets Program Series

In this workshop series, we'll explore what it takes to be successful on a small-scale farm. Each session covers topics that are applicable to a variety of agricultural operations, including fruit and vegetable production. The program series including a session with a look at how livestock can enhance a small farming operation.

The topics featured in this workshop series have proven to be key components for ensuring farm profitability. This program is a collaborative effort between University of Maryland Extension, Baltimore County and Future Harvest CASA's new [Chesapeake Foodshed Field School](#) and [Beginner Farmer Training Program](#) (BFTP). Additional partners include The Farm Alliance of Baltimore City and Civic Work's Real Food Farm, and several agricultural professionals and successful farmers in the region, including graduates of the BFTP.

Registration is required and the cost for the first 9 Wednesday evenings at the Ag Center on 1114 Shawan Rd, Cockeysville, MD 21030 is \$50 per person. We will also be hosting 3 sessions focused on urban farming, for \$30 (or \$70 for both series). Click on the following link <http://ter.ps/ssicflm15> for registration or contact University of Maryland Extension at 410-887-8090.

Jan. 28, 6:30 – 9:00 pm Marketing Essentials: A Key Part of the Business Plan
Feb. 4, 6:30 - 8:45 pm Cover Crops, Planning and Rotations
Feb. 11 6:30 - 8:45 pm Strategies for Pest Management and Examples of Pest Management Success
Feb. 18, 6:30 - 8:45 pm Soil Fertility, Nutrient Management, and Conservation on the Small Farm
Feb. 25, 6:30 - 8:45 pm Methods and Management of Season Extension Using High Tunnel Production
Mar 4, 6:30 - 8:45 pm Integrating Livestock into a Small Farm
Mar 11, 6:30 - 8:45 pm Business Planning and Financial Management for Your Small Farm
Mar 18, 6:30 - 8:45 pm Small Farm Business and Marketing Experiences Panel
March 25, 6:30 - 8:45 pm Quality Assurance, Post-Harvest Handling and Other Certifications

Urban Farm Series (held at Real Food Farm in Baltimore City)

April 8, 6:30 – 9:00 pm
April 15, 6:30 – 9:00 pm
April 25, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm (Saturday)

The urban farm series includes classroom and on-farm workshops on urban land access, community involvement on your farm, agriculture law, soil testing and management, tools for the urban farmer, and more! Visit <http://www.farmalliancebaltimore.org/workshops> for more details.

**MARYLAND SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
SHEEP SHEARING SCHOOL**

Beginners Session 2015

- Date: **April 17 and 18, 2014** (Friday and Saturday)
- Place: **Ridgely Thompson Farm**, 1942 Uniontown Road, Westminster, MD 21157. Please look for "Shearing School" sign at the end of the driveway.
- Time: **9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**
- Sponsor: Maryland Sheep Breeders' Association, Inc.
- Registration: Registration must be made in advance, and accompanied by an \$80.00 per person fee. Checks should be made payable to: **Maryland Sheep Breeders Association, Inc. (MSBA)**
- Deadline: **April 5, 2015**
Mail registration to: Aaron Geiman, 429 Hook Road, Westminster, Maryland 21157
Note: No registrations accepted after April 5, 2015. Participation is limited to 20 people, in order to maintain an optimal instructor-pupil ratio.
- Qualifications:
- * The school is open to anyone who wants to learn to shear sheep.
 - * Ownership of sheep or a desire to become a commercial shearer is preferred.
 - * 16 years of age.
 - * A body and mind with the strength and willingness to learn to shear sheep.
- What You Need To Bring:
- * Lunch, including drinks (no local restaurants or stores).
 - * Comfortable clothes and shoes.
 - * Gloves.
- Note:** Shearing machines will be provided.
- You Will Learn:
- * The New Zealand method of shearing sheep.
 - * How to adjust and care for hand-held shearing machines.
 - * How to set and adjust blades on these shearing machines.
 - * How to properly handle wool after shearing.
 - * Each registrant will receive an ASI Shearing Notebook and instructional DVD.
- Note:** We **do not** teach blade shearing.
- Instructors: Aaron Geiman, Agriscience Teacher at North Carroll High School, adgeiman75@gmail.com
Emily Chamelin-Hickman, Professional Shearer
-

**MARYLAND SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
SHEEP SHEARING SCHOOL**

2015 Beginner Session Registration Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

_____ Zip Code _____

e-mail: _____ Number of persons attending: ___ x **\$80.00** each \$ _____

Check One: Right Handed Left Handed

Reason for attending: Sheep Owner Aspiring Commercial Shearer Other (please explain on the back).

Make check payable to: **Maryland Sheep Breeders Association, Inc. (MSBA)**

Mail to: **Aaron Geiman, 429 Hook Road, Westminster, Maryland 21157**