

## **Corn Planting Nearing Completion – Time to Troubleshoot**

**Emergence Problems** -by Peter Thomison, Pierce Paul, Ron Hammond-Ohio State University C.O.R.N. Newsletter available at [www.corn.osu.edu](http://www.corn.osu.edu)

According to the USDA/NASS (<http://www.nass.usda.gov/>) for the week ending May 19, corn was 74 percent planted, which was 19 percent behind last year but 16 percent ahead of the five-year average. In some areas, producers were able to start and complete their corn planting within the week. Corn emergence has generally been rapid and many fields planted in early May are now easily rowed from the road.

Troubleshooting emergence problems early is critical in identifying solutions and developing successful replant plans, if needed. Here's a list of a few common things to look for if you encounter an emergence problem in corn this spring.

(Some of this information has been adapted from a newsletter article written by Dr. Greg Roth, my counterpart at Penn State several years ago).

-No seed present. May be due to planter malfunction or bird or rodent damage. The latter often will leave some evidence such as digging or seed or plant parts on the ground.

-Coleoptile (shoot) unfurled, leafing-out underground. Could be due to premature exposure to light in cloddy soil, planting too deep, compaction or soil crusting, extended exposure to acetanilide herbicides under cool wet conditions, combinations of several of these factors, or may be due to extended cool wet conditions alone.

-Seed with poorly developed radicle (root) or coleoptile. Coleoptile tip brown or yellow. Could be seed rots or seed with low vigor. Although corn has just started to emerge, or has not yet emerged in many fields, growers should carefully inspect seedlings for symptoms of disease, especially in lower lying areas of fields where ponding and saturated soils were more likely. (continued on page 5)



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### **Pre-Sidedress Soil Nitrate Test (PSNT)**

by Joe Dawkins, UME Nutrient Management Advisor

The (Pre-sidedress Soil Nitrate Test) PSNT is a widely-used tool for optimizing nitrogen (N) fertilizer use efficiency for field corn production in Maryland. The PSNT is based on a timely measurement of the recently mineralized soil nitrate in the top twelve inches of soil prior to the corn crop's period of rapid N uptake. The PSNT is highly recommended on fields that have received manure, sewage sludge, or other organic residual products or have grown a legume for forage or cover crop. Approximately 30 random soil samples should be taken 12 inches deep from the middle of the row when corn is 6-12 inches tall.

If the PSNT results show inadequate amount of N at this stage it may be beneficial to sidedress additional N to avoid potential yield loss. If the results test sufficient or high in N, additional sidedress N may not be needed, saving time and money in return.

Corn sidedress season is approaching and the time table for PSNT sampling and analyzing is critical so results and recommendations can be given in a timely manner. Joe Dawkins will be traveling between Kent and Queen Anne's Counties to run PSNT samples. Arrangements can be made with Joe to accommodate clients in both counties to ensure results are swift and accurate. Coverage to Cecil County will be provided by Patricia Hoopes (Harford). Please contact Joe or Patricia for additional information or to make arrangements for PSNT sampling or analysis.

\*Information was retrieved by <http://extension.umd.edu/anmp/pre-sidedress-soil-nitrate-test-psnt>. For additional information please contact your local extension office or the website listed above.

## Important Newsletters

There are several important newsletters available to farmers on the upper shore that deal specifically with current crop conditions. In an effort to reduce cost, many times the newsletters are only available electronically, by special request or subscription. All University of Maryland Extension newsletters, including this one, can now be found electronically on one website: <http://extension.umd.edu/news/newsletters>.

The UME Agronomy News is published every other week through the growing season. Thanks to a grant from The Maryland Soybean Board and the Maryland Grain Producers, print copies are available to be mailed to grain producers. If you would like to receive a newsletter and haven't received one yet, contact your extension office to be added to the mailing list.

The Vegetable & Fruit Headline News is a biweekly publication for the commercial vegetable and fruit industry available electronically in 2013. It can be found online at the address above.

The Commercial Poultry Newsletter is available quarterly. It is available in three languages and can be viewed on the University's website as well.

The "Ag Marketing Newsletter" is published periodically by the University of Maryland Extension Agricultural Marketing Program and it is written and edited by Ginger S. Myers, Marketing Specialist and Director of the Maryland Rural Enterprise Development Center. If you would like to receive e-mail notifications when new issues are posted or to receive important updates between issues, please email to: [listserv@listserv.umd.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.umd.edu) — in the body of the message, type subscribe agmarketing name-of-subscriber (example: subscribe agmarketing John Doe)

The University of Delaware's Weekly Crop Update is published each Friday from late March through mid-September and is available online at: <http://extension.udel.edu/weeklycropupdate/>. Email and text subscribers receive a message from the editor as soon as the pdf and blog versions of WCU have been posted online. To receive the email or text reminders contact Emmalea Ernest, the editor of WCU. In addition to the free online versions, the WCU is available by fax or mail for \$40/season.

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### **Cecil County Needs Assessment Survey Coming Out Soon**

UME Cecil County will be sending out an Agriculture Needs Assessment in the very near future to find out what educational offerings our agricultural businesses in Cecil County need. The assessment will be available on-line and as a hard copy for those that do not have a computer to use. If you want to make sure you are reached and have a chance to guide us in what educational offerings we have available in the county, please contact the Cecil County Office at 410-996-5280 and ask for Patty or email Doris Behnke ([dbehnke@umd.edu](mailto:dbehnke@umd.edu)) to get on the list for this offering.

This assessment will be offered to everyone in Cecil County that we can reach that is working in agriculture at any levels; this is not just for our traditional farmers. We want to hear from everyone that can benefit from our University experts, so please contact and let us know how we can reach you.

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### **Visit the new University of Maryland Extension Website: [extension.umd.edu](http://extension.umd.edu)**

The arrival of spring brings many things to our world—warmth and light, new growth, and this year, a new website for the University of Maryland Extension!

The redesigned Extension website features a fresh new appearance that mirrors that of its sponsoring college, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Both sites were redesigned over the past year to present a more consistent look with the University of Maryland website.

But the new UME site doesn't just have a prettier face; its entire structure has also been redesigned with an emphasis on doing what Extension does best: educating citizens about issues in their communities and their world.

The central focus of the site is on learning, and the content has been broken down into eight major topics that cover Extension educators' areas of expertise: 4-H & Youth, Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources, Food & Nutrition, Health & Wellness, Home Gardening, Money, and Water & the Chesapeake Bay. For answers that can't be found within the articles already on the site, the Ask an Expert feature connects visitors directly to someone from within Extension who can help.

The authors of the new Extension website are committed to providing fresh, valuable content to the people who visit it, so it will be continually updated with educational articles, information about upcoming events, and news about what UME has been doing in the community. Explore the many sides of University of Maryland Extension.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### May 2013

**May 29, 2013**

**2013 Strawberry Twilight Meeting**

Location: Wye Research & Educ. Ctr., Queenstown, MD

Time: 6:00-8:00 PM

Contact: (410) 827-7388 or mnewell@umd.edu

**May 30, 2013**

**Wheat Field Day**, hosted by Eddie Mercer Agri-Service

Speakers from UMD, MDA and Syngenta

7801 Biggs Ford Rd. Frederick, MD

For more information contact Shelly at 301-663-4678

**May 31, 2013**

**Pre- sidedress Soil Nitrate Test (PSNT) Workshop**

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Wye Research and Education Center, Queenstown, MD

Contact Paul Shipley at 301-405-2563 or prs@umd.edu to register

### June 2013

**June 3, 2013**

**USDA/FSA Signup deadline for ACRE Program**

Contact your County's FSA office for more information

**June 8, 2013**

**Poultry Small Flock Workshop**

8 a.m. – 2 p.m

Tractor Supply Company, Easton, MD

**June 11, 2013**

**Grain Marketing Meeting**, 6:30 a.m.,

Sudlersville United Methodist Church Sudlersville, MD

**June 14, 2013**

**USDA/FSA—CRP General Signup Deadline**

Contact your County's FSA office for more information

**June 14, 2013**

**MDA's Pesticide Container Recycling collection**

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m

Nicholson Transfer Facility, Earl Nicholson Rd. Chestertown.

**June 14, 2013**

**Commercial Horticulture Pesticide Management Conference**

8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m

Wye Research and Education Center— Queenstown

Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification Credits available

**June 17 & 18, 2013**

**Fundamentals of Nutrient Management**

MDA— Annapolis, Maryland

For more information visit [www.extension.umd.edu/anmp](http://www.extension.umd.edu/anmp)

**June 18, 2013**

**Equine Hay and Forage Workshop**

6-8 p.m.

Lower Eastern Shore research and Education Center— Salisbury

For more information contact Jessica Renshaw at 410-632-1972

**June 21 & 22, 2013**

**64th Delmarva Chicken Festival**

Byrd Park Snow Hill, Maryland

**June 24, 2013**

**MDA Cover Crop Signup Starts**

Contact your Local Soil Conservation District for more information

**June 25, 2013**

**Grain Marketing Meeting**, 6:30 a.m.,

Sudlersville United Methodist Church Sudlersville, MD

**June 27, 2013**

**Weed Science Field Day**

Morning: Wye Research and Education Center— Queenstown

Afternoon: USDA Hayden Farm— Beltsville

### July 2013

**July 9, 2013**

**Grain Marketing Meeting**, 6:30 a.m.,

Sudlersville United Methodist Church Sudlersville, MD

**July 11, 2013**

**Private Pesticide Applicator Training**

8:30 a.m., Queen Annes County Extension office

Call 410-758-0166 to register

**July 15, 2013**

**USDA/FSA—Spring Seeded Crop Reporting Deadline**

Contact your County's FSA office for more information

**July 25, 2013**

**Private Pesticide Applicator's Exam**

9:00 a.m., Queen Annes County Extension office

Call 410-758-0166 to register

**July 25, 2013**

**14th Annual Maryland Commodity Classic**

Queen Annes County 4H Park

Contact the MGPA office at 410-956-5771

### August 2013

**August 7, 2013**

**2013 Mid-Atlantic Precision Ag Equipment Day**

9 a.m.—3:15 p.m.

Caroline County 4H Park— Denton, MD

Save the date for the upcoming **2013 Maryland Crop Insurance Workshop** to be held **Sept. 4, 2013** at the Loews Hotel, 126 West Street, Annapolis, Maryland sponsored by the Center for Agricultural and Natural Resource Policy, Maryland Department of Agriculture, and USDA's Risk Management Agency. We will provide an agenda and list of speakers once those are finalized. We look forward to seeing everyone on Sept. 4 in Annapolis.

## 2013 Upper Shore County Fairs

**It is almost fair season! Entry deadlines coming soon!**

### Kent County

The **Kent County Fair** is a county fair featuring great food, 4-H and community exhibits, animals, tractors, games and entertainment. The focus of the fair is agricultural education and providing educational opportunities for county youth. The greased pig contest, bull-riding and the 4-H livestock and cake auctions are popular fair events. Each evening features different foods including pit beef on Thursday, pork bbq on Friday and chicken bbq on Saturday. Plan a great escape right in your own back yard!



The Kent County Fair runs from **July 18th to July 20th**. The Kent Ag Center is located on Tolchester Road between Chestertown and Rock Hall. More information can be found on the fair website at [www.kentcountyfair.org](http://www.kentcountyfair.org).

Daily Entrance fees are just \$2 per person. Thursday is senior citizens day, no fee for those 60 and over.

### Cecil County



The **Cecil County Fair** is just around the corner; what a GREAT way to support our county. The fair runs from **July 19<sup>th</sup> to July 27<sup>th</sup>**. If you haven't been to our fair, this year would be a great time to come and see all of the shows, exhibits, and food we have to offer.

If you visit the Fair a few times, you may want to get your weekly pass from the Extension Office ahead of time for \$20 adult pass/ \$10 per senior citizen/ \$10 children's pass. If you buy the weekly pass at the gate it will be \$25 for an adult pass. Our office is located at 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Suite 1500 in Elkton, Maryland, so swing on by and buy your passes from us- it is a great deal.

Daily Entrance fees are: \$5 adults (13 – 59 years), \$2 senior citizen (60 years and over), \$2 children (6 to 12 years old) and children under 6 years old enter for FREE. Be sure to bring those young ones to enjoy the animals and all of the excitement.

### Queen Anne's County

The **Queen Anne's County Fair** runs from **August 12th to 17th**. As always, the fair features livestock shows and indoor exhibits. Popular events include a truck and tractor pull and musical entertainment. There will even be a rodeo and the Maryland State Sport: Jousting. In addition to the regular "fair food", there will also be a chicken bbq on Wednesday, pork bbq on Thursday, and beef bbq on Friday.

Entrance fees are just \$2 on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and \$5 on Saturday

The fair is located at the Queen Anne's County 4-H Park just outside of Centreville. More information can be found online at [www.queenannescfair.com](http://www.queenannescfair.com).



## WHAT A DEAL!

### The General Forestry Course is offering a DISCOUNT For the month of July the course cost only \$275 That's a \$25 savings

The University of Maryland Extension will offer the **General Forestry Course** for the Fall 2013 semester. Both the **PAPER AND ONLINE** version will be offered. The course begins September 1 and runs until December 15, 2013. **Registration opens July 1. To register, go to our website at <http://extension.umd.edu/forestry-course>.**

As there are no formal classes, you work from the comfort of your home using your own woodlot, a friend's or a public forest. You will learn how to protect your trees from insects, diseases and fire; step-by-step procedures will walk you through a forest inventory and stand analysis; and the details of the forestry business are presented, including tax nuances and the sale and harvest of forest products. Ultimately, the course exercises help you develop the framework for a management plan for your forest.

The cost for this forestry course is normally \$300. **However, we are offering the course at a \$25 discount during the month of July so it only cost \$275 through July 31. The cost goes up to \$300 during the month of August. Late registration (September 2-14) is \$400.** Included in the cost are copies of the supplemental readings (A Sand County Almanac, The Woodland Steward, American Forests: A History of Resiliency and Recovery, and a small pamphlet entitled *What Tree Is That?*). The paper version text and appendices are in binder form. Online users receive a flash drive of the paper version of the text and appendices. A certificate of completion is awarded when all assignments are completed.

But don't take our word for it. See it for yourself on our website at <http://extension.umd.edu/forestry-course>. There you can read a lesson from the text, view an interactive exercise, read through detailed course information and FAQs.

For more information, contact Nancy Stewart at the University of Maryland Extension, Wye Research and Education Center, P.O. Box 169, Queenstown, MD, 21658; phone 410/827-8056, ext. 107; or email [nstewar1@umd.edu](mailto:nstewar1@umd.edu). **REMEMBER, GET THE DISCOUNT DURING JULY. Check for details on our website today and mark the date for open enrollment on your calendar!**

(from page 1): Seeds and seedlings that are brown in color, are soft, and fall apart easily while digging, are obviously dead or dying. Seeds and seedling roots or shoots with white to pinkish mold growing on them are likely victims of fungal attack and will likely die. Pythium and Fusarium are common fungi that attack plants and cause these damping-off or seedling blight symptoms under wet, cool conditions. It is more difficult to diagnose disease damage on plants that also show abnormal growth caused by cold soil conditions or by crusting of the soil surface. However, dark, discolored roots and crowns, instead of a healthy creamish-white appearance, are typical symptoms of seedling diseases problems. So, it is best to check these seedlings very closely for dark brown or soft areas on seedling roots and shoots. Any discoloration will indicate a problem that could worsen if the soils remain cold or wet.

- Seed has swelled but not sprouted. Often poor seed-to-soil contact or shallow planting: seed swelled then dried out. Check seed furrow closure in no-till. Seed may also not be viable.

-Skips associated with discolored and malformed seedlings. May be herbicide damage. Note depth of planting and herbicides applied compared with injury symptoms such as twisted roots, club roots, or purple plants.

-Seeds hollowed out. Seed corn maggot or wireworm. Look for evidence of the pest to confirm.

-Uneven emergence. May be due to soil moisture and temperature variability within the seed zone. Poor seed to soil contact caused by cloddy soils. Soil crusting. Shallow planting. Other conditions that result in uneven emergence already noted above, including feeding by various grub species.

Note patterns of poor emergence. At times they are associated with a particular row, spray width, hybrid, field or residue that may provide some additional clues to the cause. Often two or more stress factors interact to reduce emergence where the crop would have emerged well with just one present. Also, note the population and the variability of the seed spacing. This information will be valuable in the future.

Don't forget that corn may take up to 3 to 4 weeks to emerge when soil conditions are not favorable (e.g. temperatures below 55 degrees F, inadequate soil moisture). This was widely observed in many fields in 2005 when corn planted in mid April did not emerge until the first or second week of May. As long as stands are not seriously reduced, delayed emergence usually does not have a major negative impact on yield. However, when delayed emergence is associated with uneven plant development, yield potential is often reduced.

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**Contact your local UME Agriculture Educator:**

Cecil County ~ Doris Behnke at 410.996.5280 or [dbehnke@umd.edu](mailto:dbehnke@umd.edu)

Kent County ~ Jay Douthit at 410.778.1661 or [jdouthit@umd.edu](mailto:jdouthit@umd.edu)

Queen Anne's County ~ Jennifer Rhodes at 410.758.0166 or [jrhodes@umd.edu](mailto:jrhodes@umd.edu)



## Maryland Grape Growers Association Announces Its Annual "2013 Summer Field Day" Viticulture Workshop

The Maryland Grape Growers Association (MGGA) will hold its annual Summer Field Day on Saturday, June 15th, from 8:30am to 5:00pm at Harford Vineyard and Winery in Forest Hill, Maryland. This hands-on learning opportunity will provide current and future vineyard owners, operators, and managers throughout the mid-Atlantic region with the latest information on Integrated Pest Management, insect recognition and control, equipment safety, and much more.

In addition to a walking tour and current situation assessment of the vineyard, the program will include a number of sessions on topics important to grape growers in Maryland. Private and Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification credits are anticipated, but currently pending, for the session presented by Dr. Myers. Licensed attendees should bring their licenses with them to the event. These credits are not available to those who do not already hold either a pesticide or nutrient management license.

Pre-registration for the Summer Field Day is open through June 6th at a cost of \$35 for current MGGA members and \$45 for non-members. On-site "at-the-door" registration begins at 8:30am at a cost of \$45 for current MGGA members and \$55 for non-members. A continental breakfast will be provided. Please bring your lunch, beverages, and a lawn chair. Clothing and shoes appropriate for a day in the vineyard are recommended and adequate sun protection is strongly encouraged.

To pre-register online, and for more information including mail-in forms, a detailed agenda, driving directions, etc., please visit <http://www.marylandgrapes.org>.

***In the interest of conserving our environmental resources, we would like to send our monthly newsletter via email. If you are able to receive our email electronically, please contact your county office and share your email address.***