Hello, Harford County!

The adoption of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in agriculture is one of the more controversial topics in the producer-consumer sphere. It’s not my intention to get into a debate here. But, as a scientist, I find the biological principles behind genetic engineering interesting and want to help you become more informed about the science behind them.

A GMO is any organism, like a plant or an animal, whose genes have been altered using genetic engineering techniques. (Foods themselves are not genetically modified, although they may be derived from plants or animals that are GM.) There are several ways that an organism’s genetic information can be modified.

**New genes can be inserted.** Roundup Ready plants have been modified in this way. The herbicide glyphosate (trade name Roundup) kills plants by inhibiting an enzyme called EPSPS which is partly responsible for synthesis of some essential amino acids. To make Roundup Ready plants, an alternate form of the EPSPS gene that is not affected by glyphosate is isolated from a bacterium and then inserted into the plant.

**Genes that already exist can be changed.** Organisms possess lots of genetic material, so much that not all of it can be expressed. The overabundance of genetic material is important, though, because it allows for variation to be present in an organism’s offspring. If the genetic material that is present is rearranged, some genes that were being expressed may get turned “off” while other genes that were silent may get turned “on”. High oleic soybeans (also called Vistive Gold) fall into this category: genes that control fatty acid synthesis in the beans have been manipulated so that less linoleic acid is produced, which leads to higher levels of oleic acid being produced.

Most of the GM crops we hear about in the mainstream media are of the first type. Roundup Ready corn and soybeans have a gene added to make them resistant to glyphosate. Bt corn has a gene added to make it resistant to the European corn borer, a pest. There’s also a drought-resistant corn, made so by a genetic addition. Several fruits and vegetables – including papaya, among others – have genes added to make them resistant to plant diseases.

New genes can come from another organism of the same
species or from an organism of a different species. If the new gene comes from a different species, it’s called transgenic. In the aforementioned examples, the new gene in each case was derived from bacteria and inserted into a plant. Thus, Roundup Ready soybeans, Bt corn, and the “SunUp” papaya are transgenic. Cisgenic organisms have been modified by the addition of a gene derived from another organism of the same species. A new variety of commercial potato is being developed that is resistant to late blight, the disease that caused the Irish potato famine and still affects potato crops today. The new variety is cisgenic because it contains resistance genes that were isolated from wild potato species and inserted into the commercial potato’s DNA. An interesting point to consider is that the same results derived from cisgenesis could be obtained through classical breeding, but traditional crossing isn’t always practical or possible. Plants that don’t breed true, like potatoes, are propagated asexually so there’s no opportunity for genetic improvement through traditional crossing. Cisgenesis makes it possible to achieve the results of classical breeding even in crops that don’t breed true. The first GM crop, a delayed-ripening tomato, was introduced in 1994. Many developments in genetic engineering have been made since then, and research continues. The early GM crops, or “first generation” crops, were engineered to have a benefit to the farmer: to produce higher yields, require fewer inputs, and be more tolerant to stressors like drought, disease, and pests. Much of the research today is focused on “second generation” crops which will have benefits to consumers. Crops in development include rice and potatoes with increased nutritional value, bananas with built-in edible vaccines, and nuts with fewer allergens.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Harford County Extension—Ag Programs Snow Policy

In cases of inclement weather, the Harford County Extension Office follows the delay and closure schedule of Harford County Government. If the government is closed, we are closed.

☆ What if a program is scheduled on a day the government opens late? The program will still be held if the start time is after the delayed opening time. If the start time is before the delayed opening time, the program will be cancelled.

☆ What if the government is open during the day but inclement weather is predicted for the evening? In this case, we will determine whether evening programs will be held by 3:00 p.m. If you are registered for an evening program that is cancelled, you will be notified via the contact information you provided when you registered. We will also leave a voice recording on our answering machine with updates.

This policy applies to agriculture programs. 4-H programs follow the closure schedule of Harford County Public Schools.

2015 Harford Women in Ag “Supper Seminars”

Wednesdays this Winter!
6:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.
at the Harford County Extension Office

Women in agriculture won’t want to miss this opportunity to network and learn from local professionals on a variety of farm-related topics. Each seminar will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a hot meal, followed by a guest speaker, and concluding with a round table discussion that will wrap up at 8:30 p.m. Register for all or just for the sessions that interest you! Registration is open to all women with a passion for agriculture, but each session is limited to the first 20 participants. The registration fee of $10 includes dinner. (That’s a great deal for the dinner alone!) For more details about each session, visit extension.umd.edu/annies-project and select the Harford location. Register by calling 410-638-3255 at least a week in advance of each session. For questions, please contact Sara at sbh@umd.edu.

Jim Kilgalen, Director and Senior Clinician, Kilgalen and Associates

April 22, 2015 – “Farming Liability and YOU”
Ashley Newhall, Agriculture Legal Specialist, University of MD Extension

A limited number of seats are still available!
New Resources for Entrepreneurs: Honeybees and Hops

Two enterprises trending in Maryland and beyond are honey bee enterprises and hops production. Varying circumstances make for great growth potential of these enterprises in Maryland! Check out the Maryland Rural Enterprise Development Center website for resources to help you research the ins and outs of these enterprises. Visit extension.umd.edu/mredc and click on “specialty modules” then “trending enterprises”.

MD Grain Marketing Website Updated: Budgets, Custom Rates

By Shannon Dill, University of Maryland Extension Educator, Talbot County

The University of Maryland Extension has updated the Grain Marketing website (extension.umd.edu/grainmarketing) with new input data for 2015 crop budgets. Also posted is the 2015 Maryland Custom Rate Survey.

Crop Budgets. Cost of production is very important when making decisions related to your farm enterprise and grain marketing. Enterprise budgets provide valuable information regarding individual enterprises on the farm. This tool enables farm managers to make decisions regarding enterprises and plan for the coming production year. An enterprise budget uses farm revenue, variable cost, fixed cost and net income to provide a clear picture of the financial health of each farm enterprise.

The 2014 Maryland enterprise budgets were developed using average yields and estimated input cost based upon producer and farm supplier data. The figures presented are averages and vary greatly from one farm and region to the other. It is therefore crucial to input actual farm data when completing enterprise budgets for your farm.

How to Use University Enterprise Budgets. The enterprise budgets can be used as a baseline for your operation. Make changes to these budgets to include your production techniques, inputs and overall management.

The budgets are available electronically in PDF or Excel. Use this document as a start or reference to create your crop budgets. If you have problems downloading any of these budgets, contact information is located on the website.

2015 Custom Rate Survey Now Available. Financial and economic considerations such as limited capital, untimely cash flow, insufficient labor, small acreage or other reasons require farmers to hire custom service for field operations.

Custom work charges are determined by demand and supply and are negotiated between farmers and custom operators. The purpose of the publication is to provide information on custom work charges in Maryland and to provide data to assist in decision making regarding purchasing equipment.

Custom Work Charges. A mail survey was conducted in the fall of 2014 to determine custom works charges in Maryland. Rates were collected from 77 custom operators and farmers and summarized for the state. Participants indicated the rates they charge for various field operations. The charges reported in this publication may serve as a guide in determining an acceptable rate for a particular job where little other information is available. The charges can also be compared with costs and returns and may be used as a basis for working out more equitable charges for both the custom operator and customer. These are available online or contact your local Extension Office.

Crop Insurance Deadline Nears for Spring-Planted Crops

The final date to purchase crop insurance for most insurable spring-planted crops is March 15. Current policyholders who want to make changes to their existing policies also have until this March 15 sales closing date to do so. Crops with a March 15 sales closing date include corn, cucumbers, forage seeding, fresh market sweet corn, fresh market tomatoes, grain sorghum, spring oats, processing beans, processing sweet corn, processing tomatoes, soybeans, and tobacco. Insurance is also available for revenue loss caused by a change in the harvest price from the projected price for corn, grain sorghum, and soybeans. Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers and online at www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/agents. Producers can use the RMA Cost Estimator to get a premium amount estimate of their insurance needs online. The cost estimator can be found at ewebapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/costestimator. (Source: Maryland Department of Agriculture. Abridged.)
New Program Offers Free Nitrogen to Livestock Producers

By Chris D. Teutsch, Virginia Tech’s Southern Piedmont AREC, Blackstone, VA

Boy wouldn’t that be a great cost share program! Well it almost exists; all we have to do is manage for legumes in our pastures. Legumes are an essential part of a strong and healthy nitrogen cycle in grasslands. In many cases they come by themselves when we start to manage for them, but in some instances, we need to introduce them back into our pastures. That isn’t all bad since we can choose improved varieties that are higher producing and in some cases more persistence. There are a few steps that we can take that will help to ensure that our frost seedings are successful:

Control broadleaf weeds. Broadleaf weeds must be controlled prior to seeding legumes. This is best accomplished by controlling weeds the season prior to renovation.

Soil test and adjust fertility. In order for pasture renovation to be successful, proper soil fertility is required. Lime and fertilize pastures according to soil test results. Lime should be applied six months prior to renovation if possible.

Suppress sod and decrease residue. The existing sod must be suppressed and plant residue reduced prior to seeding. The reduction in plant residue facilitates good soil-seed contact. This can be accomplished by hard grazing in late fall and early winter.

Ensure good soil-seed contact. Regardless of what seeding method is chosen, good soil-seed contact is required for seed germination and emergence.

Seed on proper date. Frost seeding or drilling legumes back into pastures is usually best accomplished in late winter or early spring (February and early March). Frost seeding is accomplished by simply broadcasting the seed on the soil surface and allowing the freezing and thawing cycles to incorporate the seed into the soil. Success with frost seeding can be enhanced by dragging your pasture after or as you broadcast the seed. This simply gets the seed in better contact with the soil. Prior planning and preparation are important so that seeding can be done in a timely manner.

Use high-quality seed of an adapted species. Choose forage species that are adapted to the area and end use. Use either certified or proprietary seed to

Annual Farmer’s Market Conference

March 17, 2015
8:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.
Maryland Dept. of Agriculture
Annapolis, MD

Conference sessions will offer information about marketing tips for farmers’ market, new opportunities for markets, and current regulations. Also available will be training and certification sessions about the Women Infants and Children (WIC) program, the Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP), the Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP), and the Fruit and Vegetable Check (FVC) program. Also during the conference, MDA’s Weights and Measures section will offer scale certification. Registered businesses that had their scales previously tested and approved should bring the certificate along with the scale. Businesses can renew their registration during the conference as well. Because the conference will be held on St. Patrick’s Day, those who come dressed in a ‘green theme’ will be entered to win a door prize! For questions, contact MDA Agricultural Marketing Specialist Shelby Watson by email at Shelby.Watson@Maryland.gov or phone at 410.841.5776.

Anyone involved with or interested in the operations of farmers’ markets should plan to attend. Registration is $30 for the day and includes coffee, fresh breakfast pastries & milk from local farms and a locally sourced lunch. Space is limited to 90 people. Deadline for registration is March 10.
ensure high germination, seed genetics, and low noxious weed content. Cheap, low-quality seed often cost more in the end due to lower production and thin stands. In Virginia, a good mixture for renovating pastures is with 4-6 lbs. red clover, 1-2 lbs. of ladino or grazing white clover, and 10-15 lbs. of annual lespedeza per acre.

Use correct seeding rate. Calibrate your seeder prior to planting. Seeding at too high of a rate needlessly results in higher seed costs. On the other hand, seeding at too low a rate results in weak stands and lower productivity.

Inoculate legume seed. Always use inoculated legume seed or inoculate it with the proper strain of nitrogen-fixing bacteria prior to seeding. This is relatively inexpensive insurance that legume roots will be well nodulated and efficient nitrogen fixation will take place.

Control seeding depth. Small-seeded forages should never be placed deeper than ½ inch. When using a drill, always check seeding depth since it will vary with seedbed condition and soil moisture status. Placing small seeded forages too deep will result in stand failures.

Check seed distribution pattern. When using a spinner type spreader/seeder, make sure to check your spreading pattern. In many cases, small seeded forages are not thrown as far as fertilizer. This can result in strips of clover in your pastures rather than a uniform stand. Also check your seed distribution pattern. Single disk spinners often throw more seed to one side if not correctly adjusted.

Control post-seeding competition. Failure to control post-seeding competition is one of the most common causes of stand failures. Clip or graze the existing vegetation to a height just above the developing seedlings. This must be done in a timely manner to ensure that the competing vegetation does not get ahead of the seedlings.

Pray for rain. Lastly and most importantly, pray for rain. We can do everything just right, but if it doesn’t rain success will be unlikely.

**Sheep Shearing School**

Emily Chamelin-Hickman, professional shearer, and Aaron Geiman, agriscience teacher, will provide instruction at the 2015 annual sheep shearing school. Participants will learn the New Zealand method of shearing sheep, including how to adjust and care for hand-held shearing machines, how to set and adjust blades on those shearing machines, and how to properly handle wool after shearing. Each registrant will receive an ASI Shearing Notebook and instructional DVD. 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. Participants must be at least 16 years of age and have a body and mind with the strength and willingness to learn to shear sheep. Shearing machines will be provided. Registration must be made in advance and accompanied by an $80 per person fee. Registration is limited to 20 people; no registrations will be accepted after April 5. To register or for more information, contact Aaron Geiman at adgeiman75@gmail.com. This event is being sponsored by the Maryland Sheep Breeders’ Association, Inc.

**Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference**

**March 24-25, 2015**

**North Baltimore Plaza Hotel**

**Timonium, MD**

The Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference (MANC) is recognized as a premier educational event for the animal industry. Local, national, and international nutritionists share new, innovative, and practical research being conducted at universities, in industry, and at government institutions. The program is focused in poultry, dairy, and equine nutrition. The first day consists of a general session, and the second day is broken into species-specific tracks. One-day registration is available for the second day only. Registration is open through March 15. For more information, including the program and registration forms, visit www.manc.umd.edu or contact Jennifer Reynolds at jenreyn@umd.edu or 301-405-8756. **MANC is brought to you by the Maryland Feed Industry Council, Univ. of Maryland, American Feed Industry Association, Pennsylvania State Univ., Rutgers Univ., Univ. of Delaware, Univ. of Pennsylvania-Veterinary School, USDA, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and West Virginia Univ.**
The Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference (see previous page) will host an equine session on March 25 focusing on toxic compounds in feed, weeds, and pasture grasses. This is a great opportunity for horse farm operators, feed industry representatives, veterinarians, and academics to learn more about the hidden dangers lurking in horse pastures and horse feed. The day kicks off with a veterinary toxicologist discussing the characteristics of toxic plants, their effects on horses, and symptoms horse owners should look for. Next, participants will hear several veterinarians discussing real life case studies of toxicities in horses. Participants will also learn how to control toxic plants and weeds on the farm. After a hot lunch, participants will get an update on non-structural carbohydrates in pasture and how their overconsumption might lead to a metabolic disease in horses. Lastly, the day concludes with a discussion of toxic compounds that may be found in horse feed and the disorders that they may cause. This is a must-attend event for anyone serious about managing horses for optimal health. Participants may also want to attend the general session on March 24 featuring recommendations for feeding the elite equine athlete. For full program line-up or more information including registration forms, visit www.manc.umd.edu or contact Jennifer Reynolds at jenreyn@umd.edu or 301-405-8756.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) and University of Maryland Extension (UME) will conduct a series of regional food safety training workshops for fruit and vegetable producers. The $25 registration fee includes lunch and materials. Attendees will receive a certificate of participation following the program. These one-day workshops are important for small- and large-scale producers who want to understand how to meet current and proposed U.S. Food and Drug Administration food safety requirements and meet buyer requirements for Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) certification. The training will provide education on food safety topics as well as assistance in writing and implementing a farm food safety plan for both wholesale growers and direct marketers, whether or not a certification is needed. The March 18 training is beginner level; for more information, contact Bryan Butler at bbutlers@umd.edu or 410-386-2760. Beginner workshops will also be held on March 12 (Leonardtown), March 17 (Salisbury), and March 25 (Boonsboro). An advanced training for growers who are already GAP certified will be held March 20 in Annapolis.

Those seeking to purchase and/or apply restricted use pesticides are required to obtain certification from Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA). Training for private applicators is offered at the Harford County Extension Office each year in March and October. For current applicators, the recertification session will be held from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. New applicators may attend the optional training session from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. and will sit for the MDA certification exam on March 31 at 9:00 a.m. Both sessions are free to attend, but advanced registration is requested. To register, please call the Harford County Extension Office at 410-638-3255.
Nutrient Applicator Voucher Training

If you apply any nutrients (manure or commercial fertilizer) to 10 or more acres in Maryland, you are required by Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) to obtain a Nutrient Applicator Voucher. Vouchers must be renewed by attending a training at least once every three years. This training will meet requirements for voucher renewal and for those seeking a new voucher; new applicants will stay until 12:30 for orientation and form completion. The session will feature an update from Darren Alles, Harford County Nutrient Management Specialist from MDA, and Dr. Nicole Fiorellino, soil scientist with University of Maryland. This program is free to attend, but advanced registration is required as space is limited. To register, please call the Harford County Extension Office at 410-638-3255.

March 11, 2015
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Harford County Extension Office
Forest Hill, MD

Nutrient Management Updates for March

By Patricia Hoopes, Nutrient Management Advisor, Harford County Extension Office

Filling Out Your AIR

This month’s biggest question is: “how do I use the nutrient management plan to determine the total pounds of available nutrients applied from manure?”

Consulting your nutrient management plan, look at the page labeled “Recommendations using Organic Nutrient Sources”. There will be a column labeled “Available N-P2O5-K2O #/A”. That column will give the pounds per acre of each nutrient delivered by that particular manure applied at that particular rate of application.

The only thing that needs to be done is to determine the number of acres that received that application for the same crop. Then multiply the total acres by each nutrient value to get total pounds N-P2O5-K2O applied. That’s all there is to it.

Looking Forward: PSNT Testing

What is it, and why should I do it? The PSNT or Pre-Sidedress Nitrogen Soil Test is used only on corn fields that have a nitrogen credit from a previous crop or a manure application to determine if there is enough soil nitrogen to finish the crop.

Qualifying fields must not have received more than 50 pounds per acre of commercial nitrogen fertilizer this season. Soil samples must be taken at a critical time when the corn is 6-12 inches high. If fertilizer application is more than 50 pounds of nitrogen or if the corn is over 12 inches, this test cannot be done.

Results will determine if there is a need for a sidedress of additional nitrogen and are normally available in 24 hours.

There are several advantages to using the PSNT.
- Split applications of nitrogen to crops allow the crop to use the nitrogen more effectively.
- If there is enough nitrogen in the soil, the additional nitrogen application is avoided, saving time and money.
- Nitrogen is not stable. Using this tool gives the grower confidence in the application of additional nitrogen or confidence in relying on the nitrogen credits.

PSNT testing is available for free at the extension office.

International Year of Soils Update

As noted last month, 2015 is the International Year of Soils. The Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) has worked with Jim Toomey to create 12 two-minute videos on monthly themes. The themes so far are “Soils Sustain Life,” “Soils Support Urban Life,” and “Soils Support Agriculture.” They offer a number of learning aids for children. Interested? Read more at https://www.soils.org/IYS.
On February 25, Governor Larry Hogan unveiled enhanced Phosphorus Management Tool (PMT) regulations as part of a broader “Maryland Agriculture Phosphorus Initiative,” which will further Maryland’s efforts to improve water quality, strengthen the agricultural industry, and bolster rural economies. The new PMT regulations use the November 2014 PMT proposal as a starting point and make four significant enhancements that address key concerns of the agricultural community while providing immediate environmental protection and comprehensive data on agricultural soil phosphorus conditions across the state. The four enhancements are as follows:

1. **Ensure adequate time for farmers to fully understand and plan for new requirements.** The proposal shifts the seven-year implementation schedule originally proposed such that all farms will start implementing the PMT one year later, effective 2016, with full implementation in 2022. This shift preserves the provision to allow farmers two full years to have nutrient management plans developed using both the existing Phosphorus Site Index (PSI) and the new PMT before management changes are required.

2. **Assure agricultural producers that critical elements are available for implementation.** The state will evaluate key elements that need to be in place, including: markets to relocate additional amounts of manure; adequate infrastructure to handle and transport manure; and alternative uses and new technologies to begin to provide new outlets and markets for animal manures.

3. **Enact an immediate ban of additional phosphorus on soils highest in phosphorus.** Upon adoption of the regulations, fields with a soil Fertility Index Value (FIV) of 500 or greater will be banned from receiving additional phosphorus until the PMT is fully implemented, currently scheduled for 2022.

4. **Provide comprehensive information on soil phosphorus conditions statewide.** Beginning in 2016 and every six years thereafter, soil test phosphorus data will be collected for all farms in Maryland subject to nutrient management plan requirements. This data will provide the Maryland Department of Agriculture with accurate soil fertility data to monitor trends in phosphorus levels and help identify potential areas to redistribute newly available manure.

In addition to the enhanced PMT regulations, the wider “Agriculture Phosphorus Initiative” will include an on-farm economic analysis project that will start when the enhanced PMT regulations are promulgated. The Maryland Department of Agriculture will recruit 10 to 12 Maryland farmers to evaluate the economic impacts of implementing the PMT on a minimum of 1,000 acres. These farms will collect and provide farm-scale cost and crop yield data related to PMT implementation. The farms will represent a cross section of farm types and geography and include poultry, dairy, grain, and organic operations. The farm scale economic data collected, combined with information from running both the PSI and PMT, will inform resource needs for a more effective PMT implementation statewide.

Governor Hogan’s Agriculture Phosphorus Initiative also includes funding for the Animal Waste Technology Grant Fund for new technologies to improve manure management, create new sources of energy and products made from animal manure, and improve water quality.

The administration will also provide additional resources for the Maryland Department of Agriculture to offset economic impacts of implementing the more stringent environmental requirements on farms. The support will provide a stronger agricultural economy and share costs of environmental improvements.

Additional information is also available at [www.mda.maryland.gov/pmt](http://www.mda.maryland.gov/pmt) (Source: Maryland Department of Agriculture. Abridged.)

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**Cost Share Grants for Manure Incorporation and Injection**

Cost-share grants are available to help farmers cover the cost of injecting or incorporating manure and other eligible organic nutrients into cropland as required by Maryland’s nutrient management regulations. Cost-share rates for manure incorporation and injection range from $10 to $55 an acre depending on the type of equipment or services used. All work must be completed by June 2, 2015, and all claims for payment received by June 10, 2015. Farmers should visit their local soil conservation district office as soon as possible to apply. Applications will be accepted until all funds are fully committed. For more information, contact MDA at 410-841-5864. (Source: Maryland Department of Agriculture. Abridged.)
On February 13, the Maryland Senate confirmed Joe Bartenfelder, a lifelong farmer and Governor Larry Hogan’s choice to lead the state Department of Agriculture. Bartenfelder had received unanimous support by the Senate Executive Nominations Committee. Bartenfelder’s priorities for his time at MDA include: helping farmers to diversify their businesses to capitalize on expanding marketing opportunities from the growing consumer demand for local, sustainable agricultural products and desire to better understand where their food comes from; rebuilding farmer trust that the department is a resource to them; and working with elected officials, policy makers and the general public to ensure they know about the importance of Maryland agriculture to our quality of life and the overall economy. (Source: MDA. Abridged.)

Sustainable Bioenergy Cropping Systems Workshop

Advanced energy (bioenergy) mandates and economic incentives are driving interest in growing high yielding annual or perennial energy crops. While using our best land to grow advanced energy crops may not be a logical choice, the question is how can the economic benefits of growing plants for energy and bio-based products be balanced by the environmental concerns? This program is part of several multi-state workshops in MD, MI, and OH to educate professionals including Extension educators, conservation district staff, NRCS staff, graduate students, Farm Bureau members and farm leaders to equip them with science-based knowledge, teaching materials, and assessment tools. Topics will include sustainable bioenergy cropping systems; switchgrass, miscanthes, and other perennial grasses for ethanol; sorghum designed for ethanol production; high value bio-based products; evaluating and calculating soil organic carbon; and ecosystems services and analyzing soil quality. There is no cost to attend this program, but if you plan to attend please contact Bahram Momen at 301-405-1332 or bmomen@umd.edu. For directions and parking permit, contact Mrs. Tina Scites at 301-405-1198 or tscites@umd.edu before making your trip.

MAEF Calendar Contest

It’s that time again! All Maryland students in grades K – 12 are invited to submit artistic entries for the 2015-2016 Maryland Agriculture Education Foundation calendar. The deadline for entries is May 1. A $50 cash award will be presented to each of the selected entries. Topics for artwork may include but are not limited to life on a farm, crops grown in Maryland, food from the farm, machinery used on a farm, and animals raised on a farm. For official rules and an entry form, visit maefonline.com or contact Jeanne Mueller at jeannemueller@comcast.net.

The University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation, and gender identity or expression. The information given herein is supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by University of Maryland Extension is implied.
March 2015

Ag Notes

Harford County Newsletter

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