Lower Shore Agronomy Day - January 28, 2015
Pocomoke Elks Lodge
Pocomoke City, MD
Registration starts at 8:30 a.m., speakers begin at 9:00 a.m.

- This year we will feature a diverse range of agronomic talks including: soybean growth; nitrogen management, weed resistance, fusarium head blight, and big data concerns.
- Lunch will be provided
- You must register with the Somerset County Extension Office to ensure we have a proper head count for lunch.

Please call 410-651-1350 by Friday, January 23rd to register.

The State of the Science of Phosphorus

January 30, 2015
Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, Maryland

Please plan to attend this symposium to better understand the current state of science surrounding phosphorus transport, soil dynamics, legacies, modeling, and its impact on water quality.

Speakers will include:
Dr. Walter Boynton, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
Dr. Anthony Buda, USDA Agricultural Research Service
Dr. Frank Coale, University of Maryland
Dr. Peter Kleinman, USDA Agricultural Research Service
Dr. Andrew Sharpley, University of Arkansas
Dr. Tom Sims, University of Delaware
Dr. Peter Vadas, USDA Agricultural Research Service

UME Agriculture Contacts

Sudeep Mathew, Agriculture Educator
Vegetables, Grain Crops
Dorchester Office, 410-228-8800

Jarrod Miller, Agriculture Educator
Soils, Grain Crops, Forage
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Jon Moyle, Poultry Specialist,
LesRec, Wicomico County

Jessica Flores, Agriculture FEA
Livestock, Forage, Equine & Poultry
Worcester Office, 410-632-1972

Ginny Rosenkrantz, Horticulture FEA
Commercial Horticulture
Wicomico Office, 410-749-6141

The University of Maryland, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources programs are open to all and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.
14th Annual Women in Agriculture Conference

Dover Downs Hotel and Casino
Dover, DE
February 13, 2015

The 14th Annual Mid-Atlantic Women In Agriculture Regional Conference will be held on February 13, 2015 at Dover Downs Hotel and Casino in Dover, Delaware. The conference goals are to offer women who are involved with agriculture the opportunity to come together to learn about current issues and topics so they can make informed decisions concerning their agribusinesses and family lives. Sessions will cover marketing, USDA Farm Bill, business planning, crops and much more.

A preconference will also be offered. The preconference will take place on February 12, 2014 from 1-5pm. Participants can choose between two track offerings: Agritourism or Agriculture Law. A Harness Racing Reception will immediately follow the preconference. The reception is included with the purchase of a pre-conference or main conference ticket.

The cost of the conference is $55. A discount will be given if tickets are purchased before 1/1/2015. The cost for the preconference is $30. For more information or to register visit the website www.extension.umd.edu/womeningag or call 410-822-1244. If you require special assistance to attend the conference please contact the us at least two weeks prior.

The event is open to all and hosted in cooperation with the University of Maryland Extension, Delaware Cooperative Extension, Delaware State Extension, Rutgers Cooperative Extension and Virginia Cooperative Extension.

2014-2015 Farm Trucking Forums

Queen Annes County 4-H Park.
February 2nd, 2015 (Snow Date: February 9th)
9:30-11:30 a.m.

- Updated Farm Trucking Manuals available
- Discuss rules, regulations, permits, and tags

Contact: Matt Teffet at Matt.mdfb@verizon.net or 410-924-4525

We are updating our mailing list!

We are in the process of updating our mailing lists. Due to the cost of postage and color printing, we would be moving towards more electronic editions of the newsletter.

If you have an email address where we can send an electronic version, please contact Jarrod Miller at 410-651-1350 or Jarrod@umd.edu.

If you would like to remain on your county paper mailing list, please call your local office. We will continue to mail you a copy if you prefer it that way!

SECOND SEASON UNDERWAY!

Airing Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Episodes repeat:
Thursdays at 11:30 p.m.
Fridays at 6 p.m.
Sundays 6 a.m.

Maryland Farm and Harvest is online! Watch all of the episodes over the internet:

http://video.mpt.tv/program/maryland-farm-harvest/
The Woods in Your Backyard

The Woods in Your Backyard is coming to the Lower Shore and will include conservation landscaping practices, aesthetic design considerations, and enterprise opportunities. It will be held at the Somerset County Extension Office on March 24 and 31 and will cost $35 per individual family. To register please send a check or money order made out to “University of Maryland” by March 16, 2015 to:

Lyle Almond
Wye Research and Education Center
124 Wye Narrows Drive
P.O. Box 169
Queenstown, MD 21658-0169
(410-827-8056 x125)

Getting Started in Farming Course

New for 2015, Getting Started in Farming is a short course series on being successful in agriculture being offered through a partnership between UME and Wor-Wic community College.

Ever wanted to be involved in producing food or raising animals? Thinking about turning your hobby into a small business? Farming is not as simple as it once was. Learn how to be a successful agriculture producer by understanding the different types and areas of farming you can be involved with. This 4 part series will be taught by local agriculture educators from University of Maryland Extension.

Dates for the course are:
January 6, 8, 13, & 15th from 9-11:30am. To register contact Wor-Wic College at 410-334-2800.

Lower Shore Farm Bill Workshop

January 7th, 2015 (9:30am to 3:00pm)
Wor-Wic Community College

Seats are limited to 30 people due to room size!

You can register at: https://lsfarmbill2015.eventbrite.com

This workshop will build upon the earlier ones held in August and familiarize participants with final rules, signup deadlines, and how to utilize decision tools to pick the program options that work best for a producer. A tentative schedule is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 to 10:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 to 11:00</td>
<td>Overview of Final Regulations and Deadlines for New Commodity and Dairy Programs, George Turner or Bob Wevoda, MD USDA-FSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 to 12:00</td>
<td>The Decision Tool: Walking Through An Example Howard Leathers, AREC</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 to 1:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 to 1:30</td>
<td>Crop Insurance Update, Gene Gantz, USDA-RMA or Steve Connelly, MDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 to 3:00</td>
<td>Evaluations and Producers Using Decision Tools – Trainers will help answer questions to better aid producers use tools on their own</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please register online or contact: Jarrod Miller at jarrod@umd.edu or 410-651-1350
Agricultural Research Updates

**Digital Image Analysis to Estimate Fusarium Damaged Wheat Kernels**

Separating *Fusarium* infected from healthy kernels is a labor intensive task for plant pathologists. A new method used a digital camera and adjusted filter settings for color, hue, balance, and saturation. Researchers were able to differentiate between health and diseased kernels to get an estimate of actual damage. This method was faster than the traditional method of sorting by hand.


**Barley Straw and Corn Stover as Biofuels**

Butanol is an industrial solvent that also has a potential as a biofuel. It contains 30% more energy than ethanol and only 4% less energy that a gallon of gasoline. The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) in Peoria, IL is working on a method to extract butanol from agricultural byproducts. Two byproducts with biofuel potential include barley straw and corn stover. These would allow the harvest of crops for food, with the remaining stover used for butanol production.

*Source: Agricultural Research Service.*

**Studying the Compounds that Create Beef Manure Odor**

Three compounds have been determined to cause the odors from beef manure. These included two volatile fatty acids and one aromatic compound. Most of the odor was released within 24 hours of land application and needed immediate incorporation to reduce odors. The greatest emissions of the aromatic compound occurred from dry soils on no-till plots.

*Source: Agricultural Research Service*

**Soybean Planting Density, Nitrogen Fixation and Yield**

Soybeans planted at lower density (320,000 plants/ha vs 80,000 plants/ha) resulted in larger nodulation and grain oil, but decreased protein. A 75% reduction in plant density only caused a 16% reduction in yield. This decrease only occurred in one out of three cropping seasons. Researchers suggest that lower densities had the advantage of lower input costs and plant stresses.

*Source: Agronomy Journal, Vol 106(6), 2118-2126.*

**Tillage, Soil Carbon, and Aggregate Stability**

Tillage has a strong influence on micro and macro soil aggregates. A study on long term no-till fields in Iowa observed that no-till systems create better conditions for the stabilization of macro-aggregates. Smaller, micro-aggregates were less influenced by the type of tillage system. Conventional tillage increased carbon loss with the mechanical destruction of soil structure.

*Source: Journal of Soil and Water Conservation, Vol. 69(6), 574-580.*

**Soil Carbon Accumulation under Switchgrass Barriers**

Switchgrass barriers established between conventional and no-till sorghum accumulated carbon over a 15 year period. Compared to the associated production fields, the barriers accumulated carbon, nitrogen and soil aggregation.

Starting 2015, the cost for the new private pesticide applicator training class is $10.00. Pre-registration is required and no payment will be accepted the day of the training. Visit [http://www.eventbrite.com/e/new-private-pesticide-applicator-certification-training-exam-tickets-12463293045?aff=eorg](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/new-private-pesticide-applicator-certification-training-exam-tickets-12463293045?aff=eorg) to register or contact Jessie at 410-632-1972.

### Eastern Shore Pest Management Conference

**The Fountains in Salisbury**  
**February 4, 2015**

Commercial landscape pesticide applicators will have the opportunity to receive certifications in forestry, turf & ornamentals, aquatics, right of way, research and demonstration, and professional fertilizer applicators. To attend please call the Wicomico Extension Office at 410-749-6141, or email Ginny Rosenkranz at rosnkrmz@umd.edu.

### Annie’s Project

New for 2015! For the Lower Eastern Shore, the course will offered in Accomac County, VA. 7 sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings 6:00-9:00pm beginning January 6, 2015 to February 24, 2015.

The cost of the course including meals and materials is $75. For more information or to register visit the website [www.extension.umd.edu/annies-project](http://www.extension.umd.edu/annies-project) or call 410-758-0166. If you require special assistance to attend the classes please contact the site at least two weeks prior.

Annie’s Project has been approved for FSA Borrower Training. For more information, please contact your FSA loan officer.

### Delaware Ag Week 2015

**January 12-16, 2015**  
**Delaware State Fairgrounds**  
Harrington, DE  
[http://sites.udel.edu/delawareagweek/](http://sites.udel.edu/delawareagweek/)

Delaware Ag Week provides useful and timely information to the agricultural community and industry through educational meetings and events. New sessions include: Agriculture Best Management Practices Financing, Weathering These Changing Times, Soil Health, and Growing Delaware’s Agriculture in Urban Communities.

### Farmer Training and Certification

Write Your Own Nutrient Management Plan! This course provides an opportunity to write nutrient management plans for your own operations.

**Dates:** January 20, 2015 (Plan Writing) and February 2, 2015 (Exam).

**Where:** Wye Research and Education Center

The cost is $35 and includes lunch on the first day. Space is limited so register early. Call 410-841-5959.
# Extension Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Getting Started in Farming—Wor Wic</td>
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<td>01/07</td>
<td>Poultry Mortality Short Course—UMES Poultry Research Cntr</td>
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<td>01/30</td>
<td>State of the Science of Phosphorus—Chesapeake College</td>
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<td>01/30</td>
<td>Grain Marketing Update—Chesapeake College</td>
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<td>1/28</td>
<td>Lower Shore Agronomy Day—Pocomoke Elks Lodge</td>
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<td>02/04</td>
<td>Commercial Pesticide Training—Salisbury</td>
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<td>02/12-13</td>
<td>Women in Ag Conference—Dover, DE</td>
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<td>2/18</td>
<td>Leasing Workshop - Somerset County Extension Office</td>
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<td>03/04 + 12</td>
<td>Private Applicator Training (4) and Exam (12)—Salisbury Extension Office</td>
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<td>03/24 + 31</td>
<td>The Woods in Your Backyard—Somerset County Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb-March</td>
<td>Pencil to Plow (Mondays)—Wor Wic</td>
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## Other Events

- **01/03**  Wicomico Young Farmers Auction
- **01/12-16** Delaware Ag Week
- **03/2015** Somerset Young Farmers Auction (Date TBD)

Somerset Ext. Office ~ 30730 Park Drive ~ Princess Anne, MD 21853 ~ 410-651-1350 ~ Fax 410651-0806
Wicomico Ext. Office ~ P.O.Box 1836 ~ Salisbury, MD 21802 ~ 410-749-6141 ~ Fax 410548-5126
Worcester Ext. Office ~ P.O.Box 219 ~ Snow Hill, MD 21863 ~ 410-632-1972 ~ Fax 410632-3023

Want to receive this newsletter electronically? E-mail jarrod@umd.edu and type LES AG Newsletter into the subject line.