The Oldest Corn Club in the United States Announces 2013 Results

Talbot County Corn Club celebrated 62 years and the Soybean Improvement Program with 43 years of competition. Record yields were hit this year. Thank you to the sponsors, unit leaders and participants. The average yield was the highest ever for the contest at 209.7 bushels/acre. There were over 100 members and guests that attended the banquet.

CHAMPION
In Memory of John Williams, Jr.
246.10 bu/ac DKC 61-49

SECOND PLACE
Cecil H. Gannon & Sons, Inc.
240.73 bu/ac Channel-211-98UT2

THIRD PLACE
Raymond Harrison, Jr.
236.57 bu/ac NKN68B-3111

YOUTH CHAMPION
Alison Todd
225.01 bu/ac PK62-49

TALBOT COUNTY SOYBEAN PROGRAM

FULL SEASON - CHAMPION
Hutchison Brothers
75.61 bu/ac

DOUBLE CROP - CHAMPION
Harrison Family Farms
58.46 bu/ac

Thank you to all sponsors, unit leaders and participants!
Scab Risk Map from May 12, 2013 Risk was low on 5/9/13 then increased peaking on Mother’s day (5/12) then declined to low by 5/15. Secondary period of disease favorable weather occurred between 5/22 and 5/26 for bay coastal areas and MD northern tier. PA southern tier. Some flowering coincided with brief periods of moderate risk, much of the crop developed between these periods of raised risk. Wheat not yet in flower is not susceptible to this disease. Resistance to scab and to toxin development is incomplete and many available varieties are quite susceptible. All wheat varieties benefit from fungicide applications when scab risk is high to reduce toxin development and yield losses due to the disease. Scab does not develop every year so fungicides for scab management are only needed if risk is high. Wheat is only susceptible when in flower to about 10-14 days after and is most susceptible at the beginning of flowering.

Sign up for e-mails or text messages that warn you of changes in scab risk assessment and commentary at: www.scabusa.org
Go to: Attention Growers: Important Tools for FHB and click on link: Sign up for FHB Alerts.

Wheat Scab Management Trial 2012-University of Maryland
Moderate disease risk site as forecast by Scab Risk Tool (Keedysville, MD 2012)
Prepared by: Dr. Arv Grybauskas, Emeritus Field Crops Pathologist, University of Maryland.

Farm Bill 2014
Total Cost
- $956 billion over 10 years
- $23 billion in savings over the next 10 years, in addition to the spending cuts on commodities (factoring in cuts made during the two year time period when the 2008 Farm Bill expired and was temporarily reauthorized)

Breakdown in spending
- Nutrition - 80%
- Crop Insurance - 9%
- Conservation - 6%
- Commodity programs - 5%

Commodity Title
- Repeals direct payments
- Producers can choose between two counter-cyclical safety net programs
- Price loss coverage - aimed at deep, multiple-year price declines
- Agriculture risk coverage - aimed directly at revenue losses
- Pricing in the new bill is up sharply $5.50/bu wheat, $3.70/bu corn, $8.40/bu soybeans

Ag Census
ANNAPOLIS, MD (February 20, 2014) – The U.S. Department of Agriculture today released its first look at the Census of Agriculture showing that in Maryland, since the last Census was conducted in 2007, there are 578 or 4.5 percent fewer farms, average farm size increased to 166 acres up from 160, and 18.7 percent or 80 more female principal farm operators. From an economic standpoint, the value of agricultural products sold increased 24 percent to $2.27 billion, with an average per farm increase of 30
percent to $185,329. The latest figures indicate that the rate of farmland loss is slowing in Maryland. There was a 1.0 percent (21,011 acre) loss in 2012 compared to a 1.3 percent (25,874 acre) loss in 2007 and 5.5 percent (115,433 acre) loss in 2002. USDA will release the full Census results with much more information, including data to the county level, in May. www.agcensus.usda.gov

Inspect equipment routinely for problems

CHECK OUT THESE WEBSITES!

MD Crops Website – www.mdcrop.umd.edu
A new look to the MD crops website. Corn variety trials are now posted. Soybean are coming soon.

Grain Marketing Website – www.extension.umd.edu/grainmarketing
Updated crop budgets have been posted. Custom rates coming soon.

Agronomy and Vegetable Newsletters
University of Maryland will be writing and distributing agronomic and fruit and vegetable newsletters through the growing season. These will include timely information for weed, insect and disease control as well as other production information. If you would like to receive these please send me your email so I can add you to our list sdill@umd.edu. To view the latest newsletters visit www.mdcrops.umd.edu (agronomy news) and https://extension.umd.edu/anne-arundel-county/agriculture/vegetable-fruit-headline-news (fruit and vegetable).

Maryland FarmLINK Adds Mentor Match Program
Maryland FarmLINK was created by the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission in 2010 to fill a void. At the time, there was no website to link up land owners wishing to sell or lease their land in Maryland with farmers seeking land to farm. During website development, other farmer resources were added, including a “person-to-person” section to ask for advice, a “farm forum” for discussions or alerts, and a resources page. The resources page

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT NEWS

Nutrient Setback Regulations
Effective January 1, 2014
New regulations require 35 foot setbacks from surface water for nutrient application, including both perennial and intermittent streams. Surface water definitions may include field ditches. Please contact your nutrient management advisor or soil conservation office to find out if your ditches may fall under this regulation.

Financial Aid Available for Manure Incorporation
According to the MDA website, cost-share grants are available for manure injection and incorporation. Farmers who inject all types of animal manure, including operators who import manure, are eligible. Cost share rates range from $10 to $55 per acre, depending on the type of equipment or services. Restrictions may apply. Contact your local soil conservation district to apply as soon as possible. For more information contact the MDA at 410-841-5864.
“Everything Ag”) has been expanded to include workshops and events, farm equipment for rent, a soils tutorial, a zoning tutorial, a land preservation guide, and a realtors’ guide for selling or leasing farmland.

In mid-2013, Maryland FarmLINK announced the new Mentor Match Program, available at www.marylandfarmlink.com, which pairs experienced farmers (mentors) with new or transitioning farm owners/operators (mentees) for one-on-one training, advice and interaction. The year-long mentoring experience is enhanced with support from the Maryland FarmLINK Mentor Team, which provides technical assistance in farm production, business management, regulations, marketing and funding resources. Applications to be a mentor or a mentee are accepted throughout the year. However, to ensure your application is considered for the 2014 growing season, we suggest that you apply online as soon as possible. This program is the product of a collaborative grant project headed up by University of Maryland Extension and funded through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission.

Link to the Maryland FarmLINK website: www.marylandfarmlink.com

UPCOMING EASTERN SHORE AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS

April 18-19, 2014
MD-DE Sheep Shearing School For Beginning Shearers, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Ridgely Thompson Farm 1942 Unontown Rd., Westminster, MD 21857

Growing High Tunnel
Spring Crops
Saturday, April 26, 2014 — 10:00 a.m. until 12 p.m.
Pereyra Farm, 6182 Worcester Hwy., Newark, MD 21841

Participants can expect to learn the basics of high tunnel systems to include: site preparation, set-up, pricing, types of crops that can be grown, and financial assistance programs available from USDA. For more information, contact: University of Maryland Extension at (410) 651-6070 or email: kjparmar@umes.edu or mce@umes.edu. Pre-register online at www.umes.edu/1890-mce

Understanding Sustainable Forestry
Date: Tuesday, April 29, 2014 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Talbot County Community Center, Wye Room

University of Maryland Extension in partnership with the Talbot County Office of Economic Development will host an evening workshop on sustainable forestry at the Talbot County Community Center in Easton. The presentation will be held on Tuesday, April 29th in the Wye Oak Room and is free to the public.

Forests today are managed using sustainable forestry practices, which include a toolbox of techniques and management decisions to help ensure we retain the forest resource opportunities we have today for the future. This workshop will discuss how our present forests developed and the principles and practices of forest and wildlife ecology that underlie the management practices that are used to ensure a healthy and productive forest ecosystem. The role of landowners, foresters, and loggers in implementing sustainable forestry will be discussed as well as regulations that exist to protect the forest resource for future generations. This is the place to bring your
questions about forestry and have them answered.
The workshop is free and open to all. For more information or to register please call 410-822-1244 or sdill@umd.edu.

May 3 & 4
Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival
Howard County Fairgrounds

June 20-21
Delmarva Chicken Festival
Queen Anne’s County

July 9, 10, 11
Talbot County Fair
Easton MD

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact us. All of us at the Talbot County Extension as well as everyone at the University of Maryland Extension are here to help you.

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