Nutrient Management Update

We are very sad to announce that Talbot County will be saying goodbye to Sherman Councell, Nutrient Management Advisor. He has been working in the county since 2010 providing nutrient management plans, information and technical assistance. Sherman will be greatly missed by Extension and farmers of Talbot County. We wish Sherman the best of luck! Interim coverage will be available in Talbot County until a permanent employee can be hired.

Farm Bill Information

The Agricultural Act of 2014 (the Act), also known as the 2014 Farm Bill, was signed by President Obama on Feb. 7, 2014. The Act repeals certain programs, continues some programs with modifications, and authorizes several new programs administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA).

The Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program and the Average Crop Revenue Election program are repealed and two new programs are established: Price Loss Coverage (PLC) and Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC).

By mid-winter all producers on a farm will be required to make a one-time, unanimous and irrevocable election between price protection and county revenue protection or individual revenue protection for 2014-2018 crop years. Producers can expect to sign contracts for ARC or PLC for the 2014 and 2015 crop years in early 2015.

For more information on the Farm Bill visit: www.usda.gov/farmbill
Legal Services Directory Available for Farmers

The Agriculture Law Education Initiative in conjunction with the newly formed Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) Special Committee on Agriculture, has published the 2014 Legal Services Directory, to better serve the needs of Maryland farmers. The Directory lists the 2014 Members of the Committee who provide services and information related to the law and agricultural practices. The directory includes full contact information, practice areas, counties and states served. Directory online at: http://drum.lib.umd.edu/bitstream/1903/15044/1/AgLaw%20Directory%20041414.pdf

In 2011, the Maryland General Assembly gave the University System of Maryland a new assignment: preserve Maryland's family farms; help their owners address the complicated legal issues associated with agricultural estates and trusts, regulatory compliance, and other public policies that comprise what is known as agriculture law.

The Agriculture Law Education Initiative is collaboration under University of Maryland: MPowering the State. The Initiative combines the expertise and efforts of three distinguished Maryland institutions - the Francis King Carey School of Law at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD), and the School of Agricultural and Natural Sciences at the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore (UMES). It is committed to providing Maryland farmers with the information they need to prosper while complying with the complex network of laws and policies protecting the integrity of the state's food system and environment. http://www.mpowermaryland.com

Talbot County Corn Club and Soybean Improvement Awards

Samples are being taken now for the 63rd Annual Talbot County Corn Club and the 44th Annual Soybean Improvement awards. It is great to continue this Talbot County Tradition. If you would like to submit a sample and did not get the yield packet please call the Extension Office at 410-822-1244. The awards will be held in January 2015.

The club would again like to thank the participants, sponsors and unit leaders that make this event possible

DID YOU KNOW??

There is an Extension Program is in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and each of the US Territories as a function of Land-Grant Universities??

Extension is available anytime, anywhere at www.extension.org.

The Smith-Lever Act, which was passed in 1914, established the partnership between agricultural colleges and the USDA to support agricultural extension work.

Solutions in your community
The LEAD Maryland Foundation, Inc. (LEAD) is seeking applicants for its next class of LEAD Fellows. Program information and the application are available at www.leadmaryland.org or the University of Maryland Extension’s website at http://extension.umd.edu/lead-maryland. Completed applications are due to LEAD by October 1, 2014 for participation in 2015-2016. LEAD Maryland awards two-year fellowships to selected participants, creating classes of 20-25 emerging leaders. The LEAD fellowship curriculum focuses on providing public issues education, skills building, leadership development, and personal growth. Through program participation, Fellows become more equipped to solve problems, identify resources, engage and educate, and to provide leadership in shaping public policy and serving others.

To date 177 Fellows have completed the program. “Over the past 15 years, LEAD Maryland has proven to be a very successful leadership program and I encourage anyone who is interested to apply,” said Agriculture Secretary and LEAD Maryland Foundation Board Member Buddy Hance. “During the program, fellows gain a deep understanding of agricultural, natural resource and rural community issues. Many of the graduates have gone on to be effective advocates for the betterment of these communities through their careers and personal lives.”

LEAD seeks a diversity of applicants with interests in:
• Rural, suburban, or urban production agriculture;
• Natural resources, forestry and other natural resource-based industries, and the environment;
• Food processing, food sourcing, distribution, service and retail;
• Rural communities, services, and rural development; and
• Business, communications, education, government, science, technology, nonprofits, land use, and others within or serving agriculture, natural resources, and rural communities.

During 2015 and 2016, LEAD Class IX will complete a series of nine multi-day seminars held at locations throughout Maryland and Washington, D.C.; and the Fellows will participate in a travel study tour. The current class, Class VIII (2013-14), will travel to South Africa in early 2015 to complete their study tour. The study tour destination for the new class will be chosen after the class has been selected and has met for its initial seminars.

DID YOU KNOW?

Every $1 spent on agricultural research and extension generates at least $20 benefit to the economy.
UPCOMING EASTERN SHORE AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS
Fall 2014

SEPTEMBER

September 19
2014 Pesticide Container Recycling Collections
MidShore-Regional Solid Waste Facility on Barkers Landing Road 8 am until - Noon

OCTOBER

SAVE THE DATE!

Talbot County Extension is proudly hosting an Open House on October 8 from 3 to 6 pm to celebrate 100 years of serving our local communities! WE HOPE YOU PLAN TO BE THERE!

October 12
Harvest Hoe Down
Pickering Creek

October 19
Annual Harvest Festival
Talbot Ag Center

NOVEMBER

November 18 – 20
Mid Atlantic Crop Management School
Ocean City MD
http://www.psla.umd.edu/extension/md-crops

UPCOMING EASTERN SHORE AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS
Fall 2014

The University of Maryland Extension is proud to have served Talbot County Agriculture for the last 100 years.

Here’s to Another 100!

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Extension
Solutions in your community

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