November 2018

Maryland Department of Agriculture Extends Deadline for Planting Cover Crops to November 12

Due to a late harvest and saturated soil conditions, the Maryland Department of Agriculture has extended the Nov. 5 planting deadline by one week for farmers who have signed up to plant cover crops this fall with the Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share (MACS) Program. Farmers now have until Nov. 12 to plant qualifying cover crops of rye, wheat and triticale on their fields.

The extension is only available to farmers who use the following planting methods: no till, conventional, or broadcast with light, minimum or vertical tillage. With the extension, farmers must certify their cover crop with their local soil conservation district within one week of planting and no later than Nov. 19 in order to be reimbursed for associated seed, labor, and equipment costs.

“Extending the planting deadline allows farmers enrolled in our popular Cover Crop program to plant more acres of protective cover crops on their fields this fall in order to control soil erosion, reduce nutrient runoff, build healthy soils, and protect water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries,” said Hans Schmidt, the department’s Assistant Secretary of Resource Conservation. “Importantly, the extended forecast calls for mild temperatures which should allow for germination to take place.”

Cover crops are cereal grains that grow in cool weather. They help slow down rainwater runoff during the winter, when the soil would otherwise be exposed, and recycle any nutrients remaining in the soil from the previous summer crop. Cover crops are a key feature in Maryland’s efforts to reduce the amount of nutrients entering the Bay.

Maryland’s Cover Crop program is funded by the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund and the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund. For more information, farmers should contact their local soil conservation district or the Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share Program at (410) 841-5864.
The University of Maryland Extension (UME) announces the release of a new suite of online resources devoted to assisting farm families in dealing with stress management through difficult economic times.

“Farm Stress Management,” released in conjunction with National Suicide Prevention week Sept. 9-15, is a set of interdisciplinary resources to help farmers navigate the numerous publications online and provide timely, science-based education and information to support prosperous farms and healthy farm families.

Farm families are feeling the stress of an inconsistent and unreliable economy — consistently declining commodity prices and increasing costs have led to lower household incomes and worsening debt issues. Farmers have been forced to parcel off their land, file for bankruptcy, and take secondary jobs off the farm to provide supplemental income to make ends meet.

Access to affordable and effective health insurance and care is one of the top concerns among farmers who are often self-employed. Providing health insurance, disability coverage, and planning for retirement and long-term future care have also proven problematic. In fact, in a USDA-funded study, 45 percent of farmers were concerned that they would have to sell some or all of their farm to address health-related costs.

The new web pages offer resources to manage farm stress through a variety of subject areas including financial management, legal aid, mediation, stress and health management, and crisis resources for families dealing with depression, substance abuse, and mental health concerns.

Farms have a special role in American society and are critical to our national and local economies. With world populations expected to increase to a predicted 9 billion by 2050, farmers become even more crucial for feeding the people. Healthy farms and healthy farm families promote rural community growth, environmental stewardship and cultural legacies.

The new UME online resources can be found at https://extension.umd.edu/FarmStressManagement

Laura Wormuth, University of Maryland

---

**FSMA PREVENTATIVE CONTROL WORKSHOP**

**Who should attend?**

- Food processors who need to comply with FSMA preventive controls rule. To know if it applies to you, visit the US FDA website here.
- Are exempt from the rule but need to comply with the rules due to supply-chain demands
- Are new entrepreneurs in processed food business
- Want to remain up-to-date with the FSMA regulations and how to comply with them

**What will you get from attending this workshop?**

- In-depth understanding of the requirements of preventive control rules
- Hands-on experience in writing food safety plans that are required under the FSMA rules
- Completion certificates required to develop food safety plans
- Guidance regarding food safety risks and how to mitigate them

$275 November 27-29, 2018 at Western Maryland Research and Education Center, Keedysville MD

Register at go.umd.edu/FSMAwesternMD or contact Rohan Tikekar at (301) 405-4509 or rtikekar@umd.edu

---

**January 8, 15, & 22**

**12-3:00 PM**

**DIVERSIFYING YOUR OPERATION WORKSHOP SERIES**

Baltimore County Extension Office
1114 Shawan Rd. Cockeysville, MD

Come join us in a 3-part series to learn how to diversify your operation. We will talk about Agri-tourism and how it might be right for your operation, incorporating value-added products, and marketing and pricing farm-raised meats.

Guest speakers will include: UME’s Ag Marketing Specialist, Ginger Myers, UME’s Ag Law Specialist, Paul Goeringer, local farmers, and many more! Complete agenda to be available soon.

Light snacks and refreshments will be served. Register online at dyo18.eventbrite.com or call the office at 410-887-8090.

$5 per session
High tunnels and greenhouses offer many benefits to vegetable producers, however they also present additional management challenges in regard to plant diseases. For many of the same reasons that plants thrive in high tunnels, so do overwintering plant pathogens.

Many economically important vegetable diseases overwinter in the soil or on plant residue. Out in the field, soil and residue are often exposed to various weather conditions, chilling temperatures, and extended freezes throughout the winter. In the field, these conditions help to kill overwintering plant pathogens, which reduces the inoculum load for the subsequent growing season. However, high tunnels and greenhouses buffer these weather conditions and insulate from freezing temperatures, and as a result, pathogens inside them have a much greater probability of survival, and wait at the ready to infect your next crop. This is why high tunnel and greenhouse sanitation is important, and fall is a good time to sanitize.

After your crop has been terminated or has reached the end of its production cycle, remove all plant debris; fruits, leaves, stems, and roots. You can dispose of them in the trash, a compost pile (preferably at least 500 feet away from the production area), or burn it. The goal here is to remove all debris that could harbor and overwinter plant pathogens. Even if you did not have a bad year, it is still a good practice to always remove plant residues from high tunnels.

You will also need to sanitize any equipment or materials inside the high tunnels that you will be reusing. This is especially important for managing bacterial diseases such as bacterial spot, speck, or canker, and for some viral diseases as well, which can overwinter in wooden stakes. Wood is very difficult to effectively sanitize, so if you’re fighting bacterial diseases in tomatoes, for example, it is recommended to dispose of wooden stakes that came in contact with the affected crop and replace with new ones, or switch to metal or plastic that can be sanitized. To sanitize metal or plastic materials, use a 10% bleach solution and be sure to rinse thoroughly with clean water when finished. Some pathogens can also overwinter on structure materials, so posts and beams should also be sanitized with a bleach solution. It is also a good practice to sanitize tools at the end of the season, as well as throughout the season, to avoid spreading pathogens to new locations on your farm or to new high tunnels.

Thoroughly sanitizing your high tunnels and greenhouses can be time-consuming, but can help improve your disease management. Remember, one of the most effective disease management practices for soilborne and residue-borne diseases is to prevent the spread and carryover of inoculum. If you would like additional information, feel free to contact myself or your local ag agent.
Bryan Butler, Agriculture Extension Agent, University of Maryland Extension, Carroll County

Winter will soon be here, and the fields will be dormant and the equipment will be put away till the spring. But one more crucial job remains -- organizing and properly storing unused pesticides.

Proper storage of herbicides, fungicides, and insecticides is important for protecting the health of farmers, homeowners and their families who use these products. It is also important to remember that storing these pesticides correctly protects the environment and preserves the quality of the chemicals.

Pesticides should always be stored in their original container, making sure the product label is legible. Also be sure to maintain a storage inventory to help keep track of unused pesticides.

Keeping an inventory helps you plan for the next growing season so you don’t buy more of one type of product than you need. For the inventory, write down the product name, active ingredients, date of purchase, date of storage, and volume stored.

The storage area should be a secure, well-ventilated dry area, protected from heat and cold. There should be enough room to keep fertilizers, fungicides, insecticides and herbicides separated. The storage area should be enclosed so leaks or spills can be contained or cleaned without affecting the area's soil or water quality.

Some other elements of safe storage that must be addressed when establishing a storage area include;

- **Dampness.** Dampness reduces the shelf life of many chemicals and can cause deterioration of metal or paper containers. All fertilizer products are combinations of chemical salts that attract moisture. Some products can absorb enough moisture during winter storage to create a thick syrup in the spring.

- **Ventilation.** Ventilation is a must for human health. Ventilation also is important to prevent volatile chemicals from contaminating other materials in storage. Some lawn chemicals are volatile enough to be absorbed by garden fertilizers, thus possibly turning a fertility product into a herbicide.

- **Lighting.** Proper lighting is obviously important so that products can be located and to reduce the chance of tripping or spilling while selecting the pesticide for the job.

- **Temperature extremes.** Intense summer heat increases the volatility of chemicals, particularly herbicides. Freezing temperatures can cause ruptures in some types of containers. Freezing also can alter the chemical quality of liquid products, reducing their effectiveness. Look for directions on the package label for special storage temperatures.

- **Flooding.** Pesticides should be stored well off the floor to prevent pesticide contamination if flooding should occur due to heavy rains or spring snowmelt.

- **Flammable liquids.** Any flammable liquids should be stored outside living areas and away from ignition sources.

- It is also important to keep cleaning supplies near the storage facility or area. At a minimum, these supplies should include rubber gloves, absorbents such as kitty litter or paper towels and a container to seal the used clean-up materials.

As a reminder, Pesticide Recertification and Training have been scheduled, so check the MDA website for a complete list at: go.umd.edu/Recert2018
Attention all producers of corn, soybeans, small grains and hay! you are invited to attend the 2018 Northern Maryland Field Crops Day Meeting on Thursday, December 6, 2018.

**Presentation topics:**
- Head Scab Management
- Nitrogen Management
- Herbicide Resistance
- Pyrethroid insecticide use on field corn
- Rainfall demo on tilled vs. non-tilled soil
- On farm anaerobic digestion
- Employer legal responsibilities with pesticide use and worker protection safety
- Growing barley for malt

**Location:** Friendly Farm Restaurant
17434 Foreston Rd. Upperco, MD 21155 located about 5 miles west of I-83 via Mt. Carmel Rd. and right onto Foreston Rd.

**Time:**
8:30 a.m. — to visit commercial exhibits and refreshments
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. — Presentations topics

**Cost:** $22.00 if you pre-register, or $30.00 at the door, includes an-all-you-can-eat lunch
This meeting serves as *Recertification for Maryland private pesticide applicators* and offers *recertification credits for Pennsylvania Applicators*. In addition, producers can attend specific presentations to also renew their Maryland nutrient applicator's voucher.

To register to attend or get more information call the University of Maryland Extension, Baltimore County Office at **410-887-8090**. Or you can sign up on Eventbrite at [https://fc18.eventbrite.com](https://fc18.eventbrite.com) or fill out the form below and mail to: 1114 Shawan Road, Suite 2, Cockeysville, MD 21030. Make checks out to BCEAC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Email:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Payment: # attending  x $22.00 = $
With preparation, it’s easy to be in compliance with Maryland’s Nutrient Management Law.

Producers need a plan if:
- grossing $2,500 income or have greater than 8,000 lbs. live animal weight,
- their previous plan is expired, or
- subjects under “Plan Update Requirements” (e.g. planned crop, nutrient sources, acreage managed, number of animals) have changed.

Why should you start now?
- UME Advisors are currently more available to write plans; wait too long (e.g. January) and you might have to resort to a private planner
- Fall 2018 soil and manure analyses are good for the 2019 growing season.
- Guarantee you have a plan in hand before you apply nutrients, complying with MDA regulations.

What information do you need to provide?
- Planned crops for 2019
- Crops planted in 2018
- Soil tests (updated at least every 3 years)
- Manure analysis (to be updated at least yearly)
- Animal production information
- Yield records
- Maps of any new farms/fields
- Operations with perennial fruits and fields requiring P (Risk assessment may require additional information. Individual advisors can advise in more detail what information is needed.)

Who can write a Nutrient Management Plan?
- A certified Nutrient Management Consultant from your county extension office, or a private planner listed on MDA’s website: go.umd.edu/NMConsultants2018
- Operators can become certified to write their own nutrient management plan for their operation.

See the following links (updated continuously) for training and certification information. Several trainings will be offered over the winter at multiple locations:

https://ter.ps/nm18
And
The ‘Event Calendar’ on the right side of https://extension.umd.edu/anmp

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY CONFIRMED IN MARYLAND

This press release is abridged from the Maryland Department of Agriculture. The potential risk to Maryland agriculture from this insect has not been determined, but because of the possibility, both MDA and UMD Extension are continuing to monitor the situation. To learn more about this insect see our factsheet at: go.umd.edu/SLF - Peter Coffey

The Maryland Department of Agriculture has confirmed that a single adult spotted lanternfly has been found on a trap in the northeast corner of Cecil County near the border of Pennsylvania and Delaware. This is the first confirmed sighting of the invasive species in Maryland, and the department does not believe there is an established population of the pest in the state.

The spotted lanternfly feed[s] on over 70 different types of plants and crops – including grapes, hops, apples, peaches, oak, pine and many others. Originally from Asia, the spotted lanternfly is non-native to the U.S. and was first detected in Berks County,
Pennsylvania in the fall of 2014. As a known plant-hopper and hitchhiker, the spotted lanternfly has spread to 13 counties within Pennsylvania and has confirmed populations in Delaware, Virginia, and New Jersey.

“The spotted lanternfly has been on our radar since Pennsylvania’s first sighting in 2014,” said Maryland Agriculture Secretary Joe Bartenfelder. “The Maryland Department of Agriculture’s Plant Protection and Weed Management Program and our partners have been proactively monitoring for spotted lanternfly across the state in an effort to keep the destructive pest from establishing a population in Maryland. By staying ahead of the spotted lanternfly we can keep our farmers’ crops and the state’s agricultural industries safe.”

The department’s Plant Protection and Weed Management Program continues to work with the University of Maryland Extension, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ), and others to monitor the insect in Maryland via trap surveys. The department has also launched outreach and education campaigns aimed at agricultural operations and the general public. There is no spotted lanternfly quarantine for businesses or homeowners in Maryland at this time.

### Agricultural Conservation Leasing Workshops

Why are conservation practices less common on leased farmland?

*Communication and knowledge gaps ● Uncertainty in the rental relationship*

These free train-the-trainer workshops will give agricultural service providers communication and leasing strategies to help landowners and farmers overcome the challenges of implementing conservation practices on leased farmland. **Interested landowners and farmers are also encouraged to attend!**

**Nutrient Management Continuing Education Credits Available!**

**Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be provided.**

More information and registration available at: [https://agresearch.umd.edu/agroecol](https://agresearch.umd.edu/agroecol)

For questions, translation assistance, and/or special accommodations contact: Nancy Nunn, 410-827-8056 or nnunn@umd.edu.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intro Webinar</th>
<th>Lower Shore</th>
<th>Mid-Shore</th>
<th>Southern MD</th>
<th>Western MD</th>
<th>Central MD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 11/15/18
12:00-1:00 p.m. | 12/10/18
8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
31901 Tri-County Way
Salisbury, MD 21804 | 1/8/19
8 am – 3 pm
Chesapeake College HPAC 127
1000 College Circle
Wye Mills, MD 21679 | 1/17/19
8 am – 3 pm
Charles County Soil Conservation District
4200 Gardiner Rd
Waldorf, MD 20601 | 1/23/19
8 am – 3 pm
Frederick County Extension Office
330 Montevue Ln
Frederick, MD 21702 | 1/28/19
8 am – 3 pm
Baltimore County Ag Center
Cockeysville, MD, 21030 |

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. To subscribe or be removed from our mailing list, contact the Carroll County Extension office at (410) 386-2760 or 1-888-326-9645.


27-29 Nov. FSMA Preventative Control Workshop, Keedysville MD $275 Info Rhohan Tikekar


17 Jan. Carroll County Midwinter Meeting with Finch Services. 700 Agriculture Center Drive, Westminster MD. Dicamba updates and training will be included

8-22 Jan. Diversifying your Operation Series: Agri-tourism, Baltimore County Extension Office. 12-3 PM. $5 Contact Erika Crowl at (410) 887-8090 or ecrowl@umd.edu

24 Jan. Central Maryland Vegetable Growers Meeting, Friendly Farms Restaurant. 8:30 AM-3 PM. $22 to Pre-Register $30 at the door. Call (410) 887-8090.

If you need special assistance to participate in this program, please contact the University of Maryland Extension Carroll County office at least 2 weeks in advance.