Mid-Atlantic Precision Ag Equipment Day
Wednesday, August 5, 2015
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Somerset County Civic Center
11828 Crisfield Ln
Princess Anne, MD 21853

Join us for the 2015 Mid-Atlantic Precision Agriculture Equipment Day to be held on the Lower Eastern Shore in Somerset County. Talks and equipment demonstrations related to precision agriculture technology and methods are planned and nutrient management credits will be available.

University of Maryland Extension in cooperation with Delaware Extension will be hosting this exciting event. The field day will provide an excellent opportunity for education and networking for agricultural professionals throughout the region. Participants will have the opportunity to hear and interact personally with the top precision agriculture researchers in the country. We will have a midway for the booths and a test drive area where larger equipment can be displayed and there will be space for attendees to take equipment for a spin.

See more at: https://extension.umd.edu/news/events/wed-2015-08-05-1000-2015-mid-atlantic-precision-agriculture-equipment-field-day#sthash.2uD0NyjF.dpuf

2015/2016 Cover Crop Program
Sign up June 24, 2015 thru July 15, 2015

CHANGES TO THE 2015/2016 COVER CROP PROGRAM

- Removal of the incentive for Priority Watersheds
- Legume (Crimson Clover, Hairy Vetch, Winter Peas) / Cereal Grain (Rye, Wheat, Triticale, Barley, Ryegrass) mixes will be eligible for the program with the following stipulations:
  - The mixes are planted as a 60/40 split or 60% of the recommended Cereal Grain rate and 40% of the recommended Legume rate. The recommended seeding rates are included in the seed chart provided in the attachment. (example Wheat 72 lbs./Clover 8 lbs.)
  - These mixes must be planted by 10/01.
  - All planting methods are eligible.

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JULY 2015:
07 - Timely Ag Issues, 7:30 a.m., Tilghman Terrace, Centreville, MD. $2/person: coffee, donuts, etc.
07 - Onion Twilight, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Carvel Research and Educator Center, 16483 County Seat Highway, Georgetown, DE 19947. Register by calling Karen Adams, 302-856-7303; Email: adams@udel.edu. Additional program info contact Gordon Johnson, 302-856-7303, gcjohn@udel.edu.
08 - Queen Anne's Co. Farm Bureau Picnic, 7:00 p.m., Queen Anne's County 4-H Park, Centreville, MD. Call 410-490-6370 for more info.
08 - 11...Talbot County Fair! Call 410-822-1244.
08 - Disease & Insect ID Workshop, University of Delaware. See page 5 for details.
10 - Pesticide Container Recycling, 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m., Nicholson Transfer Site, Chestertown, MD. Call 410-778-1661 for more info. (See flyer p.6)
13 - Eastern Shore Holstein Field Day, Queen Anne’s Co. 4-H Park, 100 Dulin Clark Rd., Centreville, MD 21617. Contact Freddie Schrader, 410-441-0559, wilomar1@comcast.net
Register: https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2015-north-american-manure-expo-tickets-14876555177
14 - Blueberry Educational Meeting & Tour, 6:00-8:00 p.m., University of Delaware, Carvel Research & Education Center, 16483 County Seat Highway, Georgetown, DE 19947. Register by July 10. Call Karen Adams, 302-856-7303 or adams@udel.edu
15 - Acreage reporting deadline at Farm Service Agency
16 - to 18...KENT COUNTY FAIR! Call 410-778-1661.
21 - Timely Ag Issues, 7:30 a.m., Tilghman Terrace, Centreville, MD. $2/person: coffee, donuts, etc.
23 - MD Commodity Classic, 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Queen Anne’s Co. 4-H Park, Centreville, MD. Contact MGPA for tickets and information, 410-956-5771; Email: lynne.mdag@gmail.com; Visit: www.marylandgrain.com
24 - to August 1...CECIL COUNTY FAIR!

AUGUST 2015:
04 - Timely Ag Issues, 7:30 a.m., Tilghman Terrace, Centreville, MD. $2/person: coffee, donuts, etc.
05 - Precision Ag Equipment Day, 10 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Somerset County Civic Center, Princess Anne, MD. Contact Jarrod Miller, Jarrod@umd.edu, 410-751-1350.
06 - RCRA and the Clean Air Act webinar about implications of the resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and Clean Air Act (CAA) on livestock operations. Sign up at: https://livestockrcrawebinar.eventbrite.com
06 - Crops Twilight BBQ & Ice Cream Social, 4:30-9 p.m., Central MD Research/Ed Center, Upper Marlboro Farm

August (continued)
10 - to 15...QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY FAIR! Call 410-758-0166.
12 - Pesticide Container Recycling, 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m., Nicholson Transfer Site, Chestertown, MD Call 410-778-1661 for more info. (See flyer p.6)
18 - Timely Ag Issues, 7:30 a.m., Tilghman Terrace, Centreville, MD. $2/person: coffee, donuts, etc.

KENT COUNTY FAIR
JULY 16, 17, 18, 2015
Kent Ag Center
21349 Tolchester Beach Rd.
Chesterfield, MD 21620
Call: 410-778-1661
http://www.extension.umd.edu/kent-county/4-h-youth/kent-county-fair-0

CECIL COUNTY FAIR
JULY 24 - AUGUST 1, 2015
Fair Hill Fairgrounds
4640 Telegraph Road
Elkton, MD 21921
Call: 410-996-5280
http://www.cecilcountyfair.org/

QUEEN ANNE’S CO. FAIR
AUGUST 10-15, 2015
Queen Anne’s County 4-H Park
Centreville, MD 21617
Call: 410-758-0166
http://queenannescofair.com/

PRECISION AG EQUIPMENT DAY
SAVE THE DATE! AUGUST 5, 2015
Somerset County Civic Center
11828 Crisfield Lane
Princess Anne, MD 21853
Learn about current issues in data management, UAV’s and equipment demonstrations.

Aug. 28 - Sept. 7...MARYLAND STATE FAIR
Timonium, Maryland
62nd Annual CECIL COUNTY FAIR
July 24th until August 1st, 2015
Wayne Stafford- Chairperson

AG SHOWCASE
Tuesday, July 28th, 2015
10:00 am until 2:00 pm. At the fairgrounds
Lunch at 12:30 pm

This year’s featured speakers include Maryland Governor Larry Hogan, Maryland Secretary of Agriculture, Joe Bartenfelder, and representatives from the American Farm Bureau and the Maryland Farm Bureau.

Everyone interested in agriculture is invited to the AG Showcase day, provided by the Cecil County Fair Board and the University of Maryland Extension, Cecil County Office. The activities will be at the South side of the Fairgrounds.

The Ag Showcase Day is made possible through the generous support of the following:
Larry’s Pit Beef
Cecil Soil Conservation District
AET Consulting
Hoober, Inc.
Atlantic Tractor
MidAtlantic Farm Credit
Scheeler Seeds

We appreciate the cooperation of the following:
Cecil Farm Bureau Women’s Committee
Natural Resource Conservation Service
Maryland Department of Agriculture
State Line Liquors
Maryland DNR- Fair Hill NRMA

Please join us at the AG Showcase to view the latest equipment and learn from interesting speakers about our future in Agriculture.

Complimentary morning refreshments will be provided by the Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit, so plan to arrive early. Lunch will consist of a delicious barbeque for $5.00.

For more info, please contact the University of Maryland Extension, Cecil County Office at 410-996-5280.

“HOW DID THAT GET IN MY LUNCHBOX?”
Doris Behnke, Cecil County FEA/Ag and Natural Resources, read the book, “How Did That Get In My Lunchbox?” last week, to two group at the Kenmore Elementary School in Elkton, Maryland on behalf of the Cecil County Farm Bureau Women’s Leadership group. The book was then donated to the School on behalf of the leadership group.

University of Delaware Students Develop App for Christmas Tree Diagnostics
Conifer diagnostic app is the first of the UD Pocket Farmer App series for UD Cooperative Extension. A group of students began development of the app in January, with availability expected in the Apple Store in mid-summer. See the article on UDaily: http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2015/may/pocketfarmer-app-051115.html and on DelMarVa Morning Ag Clips: https://www.morningagclips.com/enewsletter/delmarva-edition-for-may-14-2015/

Women In Ag Webinars
2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month
http://extension.umd.edu/womeninag/webinars

Cost is FREE and all are invited to participate

7/8: Analytics - Digital media is at the front of most marketing and strategic plans for business and organizations. It’s not easy to know how to track the success of your campaigns and your websites which is why keeping up with analytics and trends in optimization is key.

7/22: Enterprise Budgeting - Enterprise budgets are an organized listing of the expected income and costs of a product or service. This webinar will take a look at parts of an enterprise budget, how to develop an enterprise budget and how to analyze the projected profitability of that enterprise.
AG MARKETING ALERT!

Cheese Producers Launch the Maryland Cheese Guild

Area cheese makers are invited to join the Maryland Cheese Guild, a local non-profit recently formed to promote artisanal cheese making in the Free State. Alicia Clugh, mdcheese@verizon.net, Guild coordinator, states “The mission of the Guild is to form a group of cheesemakers...both professional and amateur...to exchange ideas, share technique and challenge each other to grow and create. The Guilds of old set standards and their mark on something meant quality. That’s what I hope the Maryland Cheese Guild will come to represent.” Interested parties can join the Guild by visiting the website and completing the membership form. The Guild offers three levels of membership: Businesses, Professionals and Associates. The Guild website also features a resources section, events section, and links to Guild member organizations.

After hosting a successful homemade cheese contest at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair for the past 4 years, the Guild is now adding a professional competition at the Maryland Wine Festival this September. Guild members will also coordinate a new Cheese Pavilion at the festival where guests can sample and purchase locally-made, artisanal cheese. Follow the Guild on Facebook or head to www.mdcheese.org for more details on how to join this special event.

“DAIRY OUTLOOK”

A link to Penn State’s Dairy Outlook...a monthly publication. Save for reference from month to month. http://extension.psu.edu/animals/dairy/news/dairy-digest

“LIVESTOCK UPDATE”


Maryland Wines Earn Top Honors

Maryland Winemaster’s Choice-Big Cork Wins Best in Show!

Best in Class Honors:

BEST WHITE: Big Cork Vineyards- Washington County- Chardonnay 2014
BEST WHITE BLEND: Old Westminster Winery- Carroll County- Greenstone 2014
BEST ROSE’: Boordy Vineyards- Baltimore County- Dry Rose’ 2014
BEST OFF DRY: Turkey Point Vineyard- Cecil County- Vidal Blanc 2014
BEST RED: Catoctin Breeze Vineyard- Frederick County- Adagio 2013
BEST DESSERT: Linganore Winecellars- Frederick County- Indulgence 2012
BEST CIDER: Great Shoals Winery- Montgomery County- Hard Pear Draft 2014
BEST FRUIT: Linganore Winecellars- Frederick County- Blackberry
BEST MEAD: Orchid Cellar Meadery and Winery- Frederick County- Cobbler

Congratulations to Bay View Elementary School in North East, Maryland for receiving their Green School Status, and for becoming Bay-wise Certified!!!!!

Cecil County Master Gardener, Geraldine Lucas-Haji, educating a group of girl scouts about the life cycle of Monarch Butterflies. Geraldine educated the group about the decline in Monarchs and what the girl scouts could do to help the species rebound by planting milkweed. After the presentation the group of girl scouts, with the help of some Master Gardeners and others volunteers, planted a milkweed garden to provide the food supply necessary for the development and survival of the monarchs as they migrate through the United States.
Agronomic Crop Insect Update
By Joanne Whalen, DE Extension IPM Specialist, jwhalen@udel.edu

Alfalfa
Continue to sample for potato leafhoppers on a weekly basis. We continue to find adults and nymphs in fields. Although both life stages can damage alfalfa, the nymphs can cause damage very quickly. Once plants are yellow, yield loss has already occurred. The treatment thresholds are 20 per 100 sweeps on alfalfa 3 inches or less in height, 50 per 100 sweeps in 4-6 inch tall alfalfa and 100 per 100 sweeps in 71 inch tall alfalfa.

Small Grains
We continue to find barley and wheat fields that were not treated with economic levels of armyworms. If you have not treated, be sure to sample fields and check all labels for the days between applications and harvest (pre-harvest interval).

Soybeans
Be sure to sample seedling stage beans for bean leaf beetles, grasshoppers, and thrips. (I) Grasshoppers: Population levels are starting to increase in the earliest emerged no-till full season fields. As barley is harvested and soybeans are planted, these fields will be especially susceptible to attack by grasshoppers which can cause stand loss. If stand reductions are occurring from plant emergence to the second trifoliate, a treatment should be applied. Although no precise thresholds are available, a treatment maybe needed if you find one grasshopper per sweep and 30% defoliation from plant emergence through the pre-bloom stage.

(II) Bean Leaf Beetle:
As a general guideline, a treatment may be needed for bean leaf beetle if you observe a 20 – 25% stand reduction and/or 2 beetles per plant from cotyledon to the second trifoliate stages. These treatment thresholds should be reduced if bean pod mottle virus is present in your area or you suspected virus the previous season.

(III) Thrips:
Thrips can feed and reproduce on the leaves and buds of soybean seedlings. Their feeding creates bleached-out lesions along the leaf veins and gives a silvery/bronzed appearance to the leaf surface when damage is severe. These insects are very small (less than a tenth of an inch) and are torpedo shaped. While thrips always occur on seedling stage soybeans, it is only during outbreak years that they cause concern. In particular, during dry weather and on earlier planted full-season soybeans, thrips populations can explode when plants are growing slowly. Under these circumstances thrips injury will occasionally kill seedlings. Other stressors, such as nutrient deficiencies and herbicide injury, can add to thrips damage and cause plant loss. Yellowing can occur from thrips but there are also a number of other factors that can cause yellowing so it is important to scout fields to identify what is causing the yellowing. Although no precise thresholds are available, as a general guideline, treatment may be needed if you find 4-8 thrips per leaflet and plant damage is observed.

Destructive Ash Tree Beetle Spreads to More MD Counties
Posted: Monday, June 22, 2015 1:01 pm

ANNAPOLIS (AP) - The Maryland Department of Agriculture says a beetle that attacks ash trees has spread to four more counties. The agency said Monday the discovery will likely bring the entire state under a federal quarantine for the emerald ash borer. Secretary Joe Bartenfelder says the invasive pest was recently confirmed in Dorchester, Queen Anne’s, Harford and Baltimore counties. A state quarantine enacted in 2011 prohibited the movement of hardwood from the 14 counties west of the Chesapeake Bay and Susquehanna River to the Eastern Shore. The intent was to keep the beetle from reaching the Eastern Shore. Now that it’s been found in two Eastern Shore counties, state officials say they expect the entire state to be added to a federal quarantine area covering all or part of 26 states.

Time To Scout For Corn Disease
Nathan Kleczewski, Extension Specialist, University of Delaware, Plant Pathology

Please click on this link to view article: http://extension.udel.edu/weeklycropupdate/?p=8129

2015 Commercial Vegetable Production Recommendations 2015
EB-236

INSECT and PLANT DISEASE ID WORKSHOP
Disease and Insect ID Workshop on July 8, 2015 in Townsend Hall on the campus of the University of Delaware. Learn about signs and symptoms the Extension specialists use to identify pests and diseases. Learn tips and techniques using fresh and preserved specimens, hand lenses and microscopes. Bring in samples to be looked at. Sign up for the UD Horticulture Short Courses in advance or at each event. Pesticide and CNP credits are available, and each class costs $15. To sign up in Kent County: please contact Jan Unflat at 302-730-4000, jmunflat@udel.edu, New Castle: Carrie Murphy, 302-831-2506, cmurphy@udel.edu , Sussex: Tracy Wootten, 302-856-7303, Wootten@udel.edu. Also check out Cooperative Extension’s Commercial Horticulture and Lawn and Garden page: http://extension.udel.edu/lawngarden/commercial-horticulture/
Greensnap Versus Root Lodging in Corn
Richard Taylor, Extension Agronomy Specialist; rtaylor@udel.edu

With the possibility that the remnants of tropical storm Bill will arrive in the MidAtlantic region this weekend, there’s a chance of either high winds or some straight-line winds in thunderstorms. Many of the corn fields in Delaware have recently received sidedress nitrogen (N) and have reached the rapid growth phase in corn development. This may mean that at least some fields will be at risk for greensnap or storm induced breakage. Hybrids differ in their susceptibility to greensnap and the stage of development also influences the risk of this type of wind injury. Corn in the V10 to V12 (10 to 12 leaf collars fully emerged and visible) is most at risk. Although this problem is more often seen in MidWest corn fields where the prevalence of high winds is greater, the remnants of tropical storm Bill could easily create the same conditions for us over the coming weekend. Although not common in the MidAtlantic, we did observe greensnap last year in the 2014 Corn Hybrid Performance Trials, especially in the Marydel, Delaware location.

Greensnap can be distinguished from root lodging in that the breakage occurs at a stem node. The upper portion of the corn plant can be completely severed from the lower stem and root or can remain partially attached, although in all the cases I’ve observed in Delaware the impact on yield is almost a total loss. Plants can break anywhere along the stem although it most often occurs below the node where the ear will form. For root lodging, large sections of a field or perhaps individual plants will be pushed over by the winds but the stalks do not break. Root lodging often is associated with heavy rainfall, higher winds, and will be worse where corn root worms or cultivation has clipped some of the roots that help support the plant. If it occurs before tasseling, the plant often produces new brace or adventitious roots at the nodes close to or in contact with the soil surface and the new growth begins to turn upright again. Although root lodging can cause harvest problems, its impact on yield potential is often minimal compared with greensnap.

Growers will ask whether there’s anything they can do to prevent greensnap and unfortunately the answer is that other than choosing a hybrid that’s resistant to greensnap there’s nothing a grower can do about the situation. Since the condition only occurs on rare occasion in our region, most of the hybrids available to growers may not have greensnap ratings and even with such ratings other characteristics such as yield potential, gray leaf spot resistance, etc. are more important to our growers than greensnap resistance.

After the storms pass, growers should observe their fields for evidence of greensnap; and, if present, estimate the severity of the problem since this estimate will likely correspond to a potential loss estimate. Estimates of loss from root lodging where the plant tries to resume vertical growth vary greatly depending on how early the damage occurs and the growing conditions for the rest of the season.

Foliar Lesions in Soybean Seedlings
June 19, 2015 in Agronomic Crops
Nathan Kleczewski, Extension Specialist – Plant Pathology; nkleczew@udel.edu

You may be seeing some spots and lesions on the unifoliates or first 1-2 trifoliates in full season soybeans. At first look you may think these look like Frogeye leaf spot (FLS) lesions. We have seen FLS early in no till fields of continuous beans in the past, and variety plays a big role in symptom development and expression. However, there are some chemicals that can cause similar looking symptoms in soybeans. Here are some clues that can help you determine if you are not dealing with FLS: 1) There an obvious pattern to the symptoms; 2) The entire field is affected; 3) Nearly all plants show symptoms of disease somewhat uniformly, it’s everywhere. If you really want to see if you have FLS, look at the undersides of the leaves. On the underside of leaves infected with FLS you will see dark spots and if you are lucky you may even see long, silvery spores with the aid of a hand lens. This makes the lesion look as if it has whiskers (Figure 1). Regardless, keep an eye on the field and see if the symptoms progress or stay the same.

Figure 1. Closeup of Frogeye leaf spot lesion. Note purple boarder and grey/black mass at center of lesion. If viewed from the side, this black area will appear fuzzy or will have “whiskers.”
Epidemiologic and Other Analyses of HPAI-Affected Poultry Flocks: June 15, 2015 Report EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For the past several months, the USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has conducted epidemiological investigations and other studies with the goal of identifying transmission pathways of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). This report includes the results to date of investigations spanning more than 80 commercial poultry facilities, as well as other in-depth studies and analyses performed with the assistance of academic, Federal, State, and industry partners. APHIS will update this report regularly as more analyses are completed.

APHIS concludes that at present, there is not substantial or significant enough evidence to point to a specific pathway or pathways for the current spread of the virus. We have collected data on the characteristics and biosecurity measures of infected farms and studied wind and airborne viruses as possible causes of viral spread, and conducted a genetic analysis of the viruses detected in the United States.

APHIS scientists believe wild birds were responsible for introducing HPAI into commercial poultry. However, given the number and proximity of farms affected by HPAI, it appears the virus is spreading in other ways as well. For instance, one analysis provides evidence that a certain cluster of farms was affected by identical viruses, pointing to possible transmission among those farms. In addition, genetic analyses of the HPAI viruses suggest that independent introductions as well as transmission between farms are occurring in several States concurrently. Although APHIS cannot at present point to a single statistically significant pathway for the current spread of HPAI, a likely cause of some virus transmission is insufficient application of recommended biosecurity practices. For example, APHIS has observed sharing of equipment between an infected and non-infected farm, employees moving between infected and non-infected farms, lack of cleaning and disinfection of vehicles moving between farms, and reports of rodents or small wild birds inside poultry houses. We are compiling these observations and will present our findings in a subsequent update of this report. Until then, USDA is collaborating with affected industries and States to implement more stringent biosecurity procedures while continuing to work on identifying and mitigating other possible disease pathways in poultry farms nationwide. Environmental factors may also play a part in transmitting HPAI. APHIS found that genetic material from the HPAI virus could be detected in air samples taken inside and outside infected poultry houses, supporting the idea that the virus can be transmitted through air. Further reinforcing this concept is preliminary analysis of wind data that shows a relationship between sustained high winds (25 mph or greater for 2 days or longer) and an increase in the number of infected farms 5 to 7 days later. APHIS will continue to investigate how the HPAI virus is introduced and spread and will provide updated results regularly. Comprehensive and stringent biosecurity practices will remain crucial to reducing the risk of HPAI infection. http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_dia_spec/poultry/downloads/Epidemiologic-Analysis-June-15-2015.pdf
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. The University of Maryland is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Equal Access Programs. La Universidad de Maryland es una institución con Igualdad de Oportunidades de Empleo y con Igualdad de Acceso a Programas.

Contact your local UME Agriculture Educator:
Cecil County ~ Doris Behnke at 410-996-5280 or dbehnke@umd.edu
Kent County ~ Contact 410-778-1661
Queen Anne’s County ~ Jennifer Rhodes at 410-758-0166 or jrhodes@umd.edu

USDA Opens Enrollment Period for Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage Safety-Net Programs

USDA News Release: Contact Kent Politsch (202)720-7163

WASHINGTON, June 15, 2015 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that eligible producers may now formally enroll in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for 2014 and 2015. The enrollment period begins June 17, 2015, and will end Sept. 30, 2015.

“The extensive outreach campaign conducted by USDA since the 2014 Farm Bill was enacted, along with extending deadlines, is central to achieving an expected high level of participation,” said Vilsack. “We worked with universities to simplify these complex programs by providing online tools so producers could explore how program election options would affect their operation in different market conditions; these tools were presented to almost 3,000 organizations across the country. The Farm Service Agency also sent more than 5 million educational notices to producers nationwide and participated in over 4,880 educational events with more than 447,000 attendees. I am proud of the many committed USDA employees who worked hard over the last several months to provide producers support to help them make these important decisions.” The new programs, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, trigger financial protections for agricultural producers when market forces cause substantial drops in crop prices or revenues. More than 1.76 million farmers have elected ARC or PLC. Previously, 1.7 million producers had enrolled to receive direct payments (the program replaced with ARC and PLC by the 2014 Farm Bill). This means more farms have elected ARC or PLC than previously enrolled under previously administered programs.

Nationwide, 96 percent of soybean farms, 91 percent of corn farms, and 66 percent of wheat farms elected ARC. 99 percent of long grain rice farms, 99 percent of peanut farms, and 94 percent of medium grain rice farms elected PLC. For data about other crops and state-by-state program election results go to www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc. Covered commodities under ARC and PLC include barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium grain rice (which includes short grain and sweet rice), safflower seed, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat. Upland cotton is no longer a covered commodity.

The 2014 Farm Bill builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for the taxpayer. Since enactment, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/farmbill.