

## To All Ag Reporter Email Recipients:

Here is your weekly update for ag information. Click on the topic and it will take you directly to that article. In order of appearance:

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[WDATCP Wisconsin Pest Bulletin, 2020 Summary](#)

## Columbia County Extension Office Schedule next week

Monday, Nov 23	Open 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Tuesday, Nov 24	Open 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Wednesday, Nov 25	Open 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Thursday, Nov 26	Thanksgiving Holiday - Closed
Friday, Nov 27	Administration Building Closed

## Pesticide Applicator Training for 2021

With the growing number of COVID-19 cases in our county and state, your safety is our top priority. We have made some changes and added some new options to this year's private pesticide applicator training program (PAT) to help keep our communities safer. Here's how this impacts you:

- No in-person training is currently being offered
- Online training will be available beginning December 1, 2020
- If a person cannot complete the online training, self-study testing is also an option
- Online testing and limited in-person testing are both available this year

### PAT Manuals

Training and/or testing must be paid for and a manual will be provided.

You can order manuals online at the PAT Store <https://patstore.wisc.edu> with a credit card, or use a mail form available at <https://go.wisc.edu/patbook> and send it with a check.

We have PAT Manuals available at the Columbia County Extension County Office. Our office is open daily from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm, and most days until 4:30 pm depending on educator availability. Call 608-742-9680 ahead of time to be sure someone is here to schedule your training/testing, collect your fee, and provide you with a manual.

## Training:

Online training is available. To access this:

1. Visit the PAT Store at <https://patstore.wisc.edu>
2. Scroll down to "Private Applicator Training"
3. Select General Farming 100/101.
4. Chose B. "Online Private Applicator Training."

Cost is \$10 per person. Available trainings are:

- December 1-14, 2020
- January 1-14, 2021
- February 1-14, 2021
- March 1-14, 2021
- April 1-14, 2021
- May 1-14, 2021

After choosing a training from the PAT Store, you can begin anytime in the 14-day window you selected.

However, just like the in-person training, you must complete it in one sitting. You will not be able to start and stop, except for the designated breaks that are built into the training. Allow yourself approximately 3.5 hours to complete.

After successful completion of the online training, you will receive a receipt that will allows eligibility of the passing rate of 50% when you take the test.

## Testing: Online or In-Person

If an individual does not take the training, they are able to do the self-study option, which requires a passing rate of 70%

An online test will be available beginning with the December online trainings. Check the PAT Store website above for information regarding taking the online test.

A very limited amount of in-person testing will be made available **ONLY** for individuals who don't have online access. This is to reduce office traffic and limit potential person-to-person exposure. To schedule an in-person test:

- You must call ahead to the Columbia County Extension Office at 608-742-9680
- There is a 2-hour time limit per current Extension policy
- Masks **MUST BE WORN** while at the office
- Testing may be done individually or in small groups (<10)
- Cell phones are not allowed in the testing room; they must be left just outside the room
- Bring your manual, calculator, and pencils with erasers (*you MUST bring your own supplies, the office will not be providing shared supplies to minimize possible disease transmission*)
- Also, you must bring photo ID or notarized waiver for why you don't have photo ID

Columbia County in-person testing will be held in Room #2 of the Health and Human Services Building located at 111 East Mullett St., Portage with a limit of nine people per testing session. Enter the doors on the west end through the ADRC entrance. In-person testing dates and times are scheduled for:

Dec 17	1:00 PM
Jan 14	9:00 AM
Jan 14	1:00 PM
Jan 20	1:00 PM
Feb 9	9:00 AM
Feb 23	1:00 PM
Feb 24	1:00 PM
Mar 17	1:00 PM

Call or email Sarah Millard to schedule your test time. 608-742-9688 or [sarah.millard@wisc.edu](mailto:sarah.millard@wisc.edu) We can only schedule nine people for each time slot.

It will be especially important this year to get your testing completed well ahead of when certification is needed. You may also consider the self-study option to get your testing completed sooner. We will do our best to provide in-person testing between now and Spring.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we navigate this unprecedented situation together. Please don't hesitate to contact our County Extension Office, the University of Wisconsin Pesticide Applicator Training (PAT) Program or DATCP if you have any questions.

## Columbia County Corn Grower December Meetings gone Virtual

You are invited to participate in the Columbia County Corn Growers December 2020 Meetings. Due to Covid 19 we will not be meeting at Club 60 as was our custom. Instead, we will host three separate meetings this year. Join us from the comfort of your home or office on-line on December 8, 9, and 10 from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM each day. There will be a very limited in-person opportunity to join the meetings at the Columbia County Administration Building in Rooms 113 & 114 each day for those without internet access. George will be facilitating the meetings from these rooms each day. If you attend in person, you must wear a face mask and practice social distancing.

Join us for one day, or all three days. You must register on-line each day to attend the Zoom meetings or call Sarah Millard, 608-742-9688 ([sarah.millard@co.columbia.wi.us](mailto:sarah.millard@co.columbia.wi.us)) to attend the In-person meetings. Also, if you would like Sarah to email the registration links to you please call or email her right away..

We will begin on Tuesday December 8<sup>th</sup> with updates and information from our agency partners. You will hear from: Twyla Kite at NRCS, Lexie Meyer at FSA, Kurt Calkins from Columbia County Land and Water Conservation, and George Koepp from UW-Extension. Register for Tuesday's meeting here:

<https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwrcu2qpjwrHNJTQZ1AeAPPauN1ybz53b-R>

On Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, we will hear about Market Outlooks from Corn Grower Board Member Kasey Baker, Grain Marketing Specialist at Landmark Services Cooperative. Register for Wednesday's meeting here: [https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJErdeispjMrHt1S\\_9QLrfwFVnjgvSWFoorL](https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJErdeispjMrHt1S_9QLrfwFVnjgvSWFoorL)

On Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, we will wrap up the series with a discussion on "Liming and Variable Rate Fertility Considerations", from Carrie Laboski, UW-Madison Soil Fertility Scientist. Register for Thursday's meeting here: <https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwpfu-qgTluHdFsVnO-hNr2jFR6p82eCKjb>

This year each day will begin at 8:00 AM and plan to be done by 9:00 AM, unless you wish to stay on-line longer to continue asking questions of our presenters. We can even stay on a little longer to have some discussion amongst corn growers. Have your coffee ready, eat your breakfast at your home or office while we discuss issues important to grain farmers in Columbia and neighboring counties.

Here again are the links to register for each day:

Tuesday, December 8:

<https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwrcu2qpjwrHNJTQZ1AeAPPauN1ybz53b-R>

Wednesday, December 9:

[https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJErdeispjMrHt1S\\_9QLrfwFVnjgvSWFoorL](https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJErdeispjMrHt1S_9QLrfwFVnjgvSWFoorL)

Thursday, December 10:

<https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwpfu-qgTluHdFsVnO-hNr2jFR6p82eCKjb>

We look forward to seeing you on line in early December. Your Columbia County Corn Grower Board:

Darren Schroeder, President

Ben Groves, Secretary

Mike Minick, Director

Matt Balfanz, Vice President

Scott Holland, Treasurer

Kasey Baker, Director

## Dairy Margin Coverage Decision Making Webinar



Extension  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# Dairy Margin Coverage Decision-Making Webinar

Mark Stephenson

UW Madison Extension | Dairy Policy Specialist  
UW Center for Dairy Profitability | Director



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**T H U R S D A Y , D E C E M B E R 3 , 2 0 2 0 | 1 2 N O O N**

Register via email to [scott.reuss@wisc.edu](mailto:scott.reuss@wisc.edu)

Send an email to Scott Reuss to register: [scott.reuss@wisc.edu](mailto:scott.reuss@wisc.edu)

## Soil Sampling Basics Video



### [New Video: Soil Sampling Basics](#)

New Video: Soil Sampling Basics The importance of soil testing, as well as the mechanics of collecting a representative soil sample, are discussed and demonstrated in this short video from the Nutrient and Pest Management ...

## 2021 WI Agribusiness Virtual Classic



### [2021 Wisconsin Agribusiness Virtual Classic, Jan 11-14](#)

2021 Wisconsin Agribusiness Virtual Classic Registration for the 2021 Wisconsin Agribusiness Virtual Classic (January 11-14, 2021) is officially open. There are over 25 CCA credits available, and with only one session running at a time, ...

## WI Pest Bulletin 2020 Summary



### [WDATCP Wisconsin Pest Bulletin, 2020 Summary](#)

Krista Hamilton, Entomologist, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection This final Wisconsin Pest Bulletin of 2020 provides a post-growing season summary of prevailing insect and plant disease conditions in the state. ...

### [Weekly Emails Online!](#)

<http://columbia.uwex.edu/ag-calendar-and-deadlines/>

The Ag Reporter "Snapshot" is presented to you each week by George Koepp, Columbia County UW-Madison Extension Agriculture Agent. If you have any questions about these articles or need other ag-related information, please contact George at 608-742-9682 or by email [george.koepp@wisc.edu](mailto:george.koepp@wisc.edu).