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TRI-STATE CORN ROOTWORM MANAGEMENT UPDATE, MARCH 26

Friday, March 26, 10-11:30 am.

University of Illinois, Iowa State University, and University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension Programs are offering a virtual 1.5 hour program featuring current research and outreach efforts focusing on corn rootworm scouting, resistance, and management.

This program is designed for farmers, agronomists, and conservation professionals, interested in learning about research and outreach projects occurring in the tri-state region. Please see the below meeting advertisement. There is no charge to attend this meeting.

To register go to: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSddA60iK8RpHSBtZcB4EpKT-QQwbJcahXbrho7dwx3bp4vy1w/viewform>

2020 Wisconsin Field Crops Fungicide Test Summary

Each year the Wisconsin Field Crops Pathology Program conducts a wide array of fungicide tests on alfalfa, corn, soybeans, and wheat. These tests help inform researchers, practitioners, and farmers about the efficacy of certain fungicide products on specific diseases. This year we were a bit delayed in publishing the report, due to the challenges of COVID-19. However, we do appreciate your patience and hope you find the report useful in making decisions for the 2021 field season.

[The 2020 Wisconsin Field Crops Fungicide Test Summary is available by clicking here.](#)

2020 WI On-Farm Soybean Trials Report

BOOTS ON THE GROUND: VALIDATION OF BENCHMARKING PROCESS THROUGH AN INTEGRATED ON-FARM PARTNERSHIP

Analysis of producer survey data performed during our previous 3-year NCSRP-funded benchmarking project revealed: (1) an average yield gap of 20-30% between current farmer yield and potential yield as determined by climate, soil, and genetics, and (2) a number of agronomic practices that, for a given soil-climate context, can be fine-tuned to close the gap and improve soybean producer profit.

IN A BEAN POD:

- In the 2020 crop season, the improved management treatment netted soybean producers an average of 3.2 bu/ac yield increase and \$31/ac additional profit.
- Growers should consider improving their soybean management by fine tuning planting date, maturity group, seeding rate, and foliar fungicide and insecticide application.

[Download or view PDF report, click this link.](#)

Free Farm Law Resource

Small, diversified farms may not always have abundant cash available to pay workers, but boy, do they have broccoli! This guide will provide readers with a comprehensive understanding of the rules and regulations that apply when paying farm workers "in kind" wages. In-kind wages includes paying farm employees with meals, farm products like meat and vegetables, lodging/housing and other non-cash items of value. From understanding when in-kind wages are allowed, to how to value them, to the tax implications of paying in broccoli, we explore it all. The Appendices provide detailed information about specific issues including the OSHA, migrant/seasonal worker law implications, and tax rulings. The Appendices also provide selected state-specific information. (77 pages)

Farm Commons is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering the agricultural community to reduce legal risk and leverage legal opportunity within an ecosystem of support. Through education, leadership development and community-based problem solving around business law, agricultural communities become stronger and more resilient. The result is a legacy of sustainable farms and a community-based food system for everyone. At Farm Commons, paperwork is powerful.

Download it for free at this link until March 1. <https://farmcommons.org/resources/farmers-guide-kind-wages>

Take Action to Keep Our Lakes Healthy - March 4th, 6:00-7:00pm

Our lakes are vital to where we live, work and play. But they need our help!

Lesser celandine, Phragmites, and knotweed are three invasive plants in southern Wisconsin that grow in wet areas, such as shorelines, and have significant impacts on our lakes. Learn how to identify them, their effects, and how you can take action by looking for and reporting infestations via email or with the Great Lakes Early Detection Network app.

This is a free event, but registration is required. Please use the following link to register: <https://go.wisc.edu/ixpf32>

Once registered, a connection link to the webinar will be sent the *day before the event*.

Presented by:

Jason Granberg- Conservation biologist for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, focusing on invasive species monitoring, control, and grant administration and helping governments, non-profits, and private citizens on invasive species topics.

Anne Pearce - Coordinator of the Wisconsin First Detector Network, a citizen science network that empowers people to take action against invasive species through education and volunteer opportunities.

Hosted by UW-Madison, Division of Extension, Walworth County, in partnership with the Walworth County Lakes Association and other local, regional and statewide organizations. Questions can be directed to Julie Hill, julie.hill@wisc.edu

Shoreline Gardening for Healthy Lakes - March 18th, 6:00-7:30pm

Healthy shorelines provide many benefits, especially when it comes to keeping our lakes free from pollution and places where we want to live and play. In this webinar, you will learn what rain gardens are and how this special type of low maintenance garden can filter pollutants, recharge the groundwater and reduce pollution of local waterways. You will also learn the attributes of intact, healthy shorelines, and what services they provide, including habitat, improved water quality and decreased erosion.

This is a free event, but registration is required. Please use the following link to register: <https://go.wisc.edu/663c99>

Once registered, a connection link to the webinar will be sent the *day before the event*.

Presented by:

Paul Skawinski - Lakes Outreach Specialist and Statewide Coordinator of the Wisconsin Citizen Lake Monitoring Network. He teaches Aquatic Botany at UW-Stevens Point, is the author and photographer of the popular field guide Aquatic Plants of the Upper Midwest and is also an avid native plant gardener.

Patrick Goggin - Extension Lakes team. He helps lake organizations with their community goals, shares lake management tools and resources for aquatic ecosystems, and helps people in gaining a better understanding and appreciation for the native flora of Wisconsin lakeshores. He works for the

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's College of Natural Resources and the University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension.

Hosted by UW-Madison, Division of Extension, Walworth County, in partnership with local, regional and statewide organizations. Questions can be directed to Julie Hill, julie.hill@wisc.edu

TILE DRAINAGE SCHOOL

March 8th, 9th, 11th and 16th

Wetter weather patterns and fieldwork challenges have led many producers to consider purchasing their own tile plow or adding to their existing drainage system. Knowing how to properly design, lay out and install a system prevents costly mistakes. Extension in Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa are partnering to host a 4-day virtual Tile Drainage School, 8 AM – 12 PM on March 8, 9, 11 and 16 for producers and tile contractors

Drainage experts will walk participants through assessing the field prior to installation, choosing the best lateral spacing, slope and outfall considerations, finding old tile systems and outlets/lift stations. Agency experts will discuss the steps to avoid regulatory pitfalls, and participants will be able to lay out a system and receive feedback on their approach.

The cost is \$50 for the first person from a farm/tile installation business, and \$25 for each additional person.

<https://go.wisc.edu/39v013>

MANURE APPLICATOR TRAINING

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension is hosting four virtual Manure Applicator Training sessions - Level 1 / Manure 101.

Designed for employees of both for-hire manure applicators and farmers applying their own manure, this 3-hour training covers the basics of manure spill response, setbacks and regulations, neighbor relations and equipment/manure gas safety.

The same training will be offered four times:

- March 4th, 9 AM – 12 PM
- March 11th, 6 PM – 9 PM
- March 23rd, 9 AM – 12 PM
- March 29th, 12:30 PM – 3:30 PM

An internet-capable device and internet connection is required, and the cost is \$10/person.

<https://go.wisc.edu/4lm34e>

Badger Crop Connect Starting Back up for 2021

Webinars are being offered on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday's at 12:30 PM from March thru September
Upcoming Webinars:

March 10 – Winter Wheat Management

Shawn Conley, Extension Soybean and Small Grains Specialist and Carrie Laboski, Extension Soil Specialist

March 24 – Early Season Weed Control

Rodrigo Werle, Extension Weed Scientist and Mark Renz, Extension Weed Scientist

April 14 – Field Conditions and Planter Set-up

Francisco Arriaga, Extension Soil Specialist & Brian Luck, Extension Biological Systems Engineering Specialist

Register at the Spring 2021 Sessions at:

https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUkf-2opjsoGdMGLxekR_cOrTfKWbQHETJV

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.