

Columbia County Ag Reporter

May/June 2021



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
COLUMBIA COUNTY

WHAT'S INSIDE...

Agricultural newsletter for Columbia
County landowners and residents

This issue's highlighted articles:

- ◆ Calendar of Events (pg. 2)
- ◆ Badger Crop Connect (pgs. 3 & 4)
- ◆ Columbia County Corn Growers Mtg. (pg. 5)
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COLUMBIA
COUNTY

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Web Site:

<https://columbia.extension.wisc.edu/>

Ag Reporter Calendar of Events

May

- 1 Optimum Corn Planting date in southern Wisconsin
- 9 Mother's Day
- 10 Try to have all corn planted by this date
- 20 Try to have all soybeans planted by this date
- 31 Memorial Day—Extension Office is Closed
- 31 Last planting date for Corn Grain Crop Insurance

June

- 14 Flag Day
- 16 Col Co Corn Growers Mtg, 8:30 am—Noon
- 19 Moo Day Brunch – Schoepp Farm, Lodi, 9 am - 1 pm
- 19 "Conservation by the Lake Field" Event, Schoepp Farm,
Lodi 2 pm - 8 pm
- 20 Father's Day

July

- 4 Independence Day
- 5 Extension Office is Closed
- 20-22 Farm Tech Days, Eau Claire, WI
- 20-25 Columbia County Fair



The Columbia County **Ag Calendar and Deadlines** webpage is
located at

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



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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
COLUMBIA COUNTY

Wheat Fungicides & Corn Nitrogen Management

Badger Crop Connect

April 28, 2021 12:30-1:30 pm

Local Update

Steve Okonek, Jackson & Trempealeau Counties Agriculture Educator

When are Fungicides for Wheat Diseases Profitable?

Damon Smith, UW-Madison Extension Crop Pathologist

Corn Nitrogen Management: 2020 Adaptive N Plot Summary

Carrie Laboski, UW-Madison Extension Soil Specialist

CCA CEU's available

Registration: <https://go.wisc.edu/bccspring2021>



**Badger Crop
Connect**

TIMELY CROP UPDATES FOR WISCONSIN



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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
COLUMBIA COUNTY

Badger Crop Connect

TIMELY WISCONSIN CROP UPDATES

May 12, 2021 from 12:30-1:30 pm

Register here: <https://go.wisc.edu/bccspring2021>

Corn and Insect Update

(0.5 CM and 0.5 PM CCA CEU available)

Local Update

Jerry Clark, Chippewa County Ag Educator

Early Season Corn Crop Progress

Joe Lauer, UW-Madison Extension Corn Specialist

Early Season Insect Update

Bryan Jensen, UW-Madison Extension Crop Entomologist



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Badger Crop Connect

TIMELY WISCONSIN CROP UPDATES

May 26, 2021 from 12:30-1:30 pm

Register here: <https://go.wisc.edu/bccspring2021>

Soybean Update and Roller Crimping Rye

(1 CM CCA CEU available)

Local Update

Dan Marzu, Langlade & Lincoln County Ag Educator

Soybean Crop Progress - Know the Growth Stages

Shawn Connelly, UW-Madison Extension Soybean and Small Grain Specialist

Agronomic Management with Roller Crimped Winter Cereal Rye

Erin Silva, UW-Madison Extension Organic Agriculture Specialist

You are invited!!!!

The Columbia County Corn Growers Association will be meeting on Wednesday, June 16, beginning at 8:30 am at the Minick Farm Shop, N2707 County Road A, Columbus, WI. On site check in begins at 8:00 am with the opening welcome remarks by President Darren Schroeder at 8:30 am. **Anyone who grows corn in Columbia County** is invited to attend this event and lunch. Your Board of Directors and Columbia County Extension have put together an exciting and fast-paced group of speakers and topics to help you as corn growers, increase your productive efficiency and profitability in 2021. There will also be an election for two seats on the Board of Directors for three-year terms. Darren Schroeder and Scott Holland are both eligible to serve another three year term. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else, please contact George or another member of the Board of Directors.

If you plan to attend, please register by June 10, by contacting Sarah Millard at sarah.millard@wisc.edu or calling 608-742-9688. All other questions should be directed to George Koepp, UW-Madison Extension Columbia County Agriculture Educator at george.koepp@wisc.edu or 608-742-9682.

8:00	On-site check in
8:30	Welcome and Sponsor Recognition – Darren Schroeder
8:40	Land and Water Conservation Update – Kurt Calkins
8:50	NRCS Update – Lizzy Dawson
9:00	FSA Update – Lexie Meyer
9:10	Columbia County Extension– George Koepp
9:20	Board of Directors Election
9:30	Grain Marketing – Kasey Baker, Countryside Cooperative - Landmark Services Co-op
10:00	Break
10:15	Grain Bin Safety – Jim Seibert, National Feed and Grain Association
	This will include a presentation & then a walk-around hands-on demo
11:30	Announcements and Sponsors Thank you

We really hope to see you at our meeting!

Darren Schroeder – President
Matt Balfanz – Vice President
Ben Groves – Secretary
George Koepp – Columbia County Ag Agent

Scott Holland - Treasurer
Kasey Baker - Director
Mike Minick – Director

Columbia County Moo Day Brunch

Moo Day Brunch will be held on the Schoepp Farm overlooking Lake Wisconsin between Lodi and Prairie du Sac. It will occur on Saturday, June 19 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. There will be a drive through option as well as a limited seating option this year. The farm is located at N2007 East Harmon Road, Lodi, WI. Watch for signs to direct you off of East Harmon Road since traffic will all be one way through the farm for the brunch.

Farm Equipment will be on display along the driveway as you travel through the farm to the parking area or to the brunch carry out pick up zone. Also, a couple of soil pits and other displays will be available to view for those that plan to eat at the farm. Social distancing and mask wearing will be recommended for this event except when you are eating.

Watch for more details in print media and social media as we get closer to the event.

Lake Wisconsin Farmer Led Watershed Council

Conservation Day by the Lake

Join three Farmer Led Watershed groups for “Conservation Day by the Lake” on Saturday, June 19th following the Moo Day Brunch at the Ron Schoepp farm in West Point Township. It is a beautiful farm site overlooking Lake Wisconsin. Three local Farmer Watershed groups are working together to bring Rick Clark an Indiana Farmer, who advocates for implementing Regenerative Agriculture and Cover Crops to improve his soil health and sustainable cropping practices. They will also have breakout sessions highlighting soil pits and a rainfall simulator, cover crop planting and using a roller/crimper, low disturbance manure injection, and grazing of cover crops.

The event will include dinner and a second presentation by Rick Clark. The last part of the day allows for a social with networking among farmers. This event is being organized by Lake Wisconsin Farmer Watershed Council, Sauk Soil and Water Improvement Group (SSWIG), and the Lake Redstone Farmer Led Watershed Group. The event will begin at 2:00 PM and end sometime after 8:00 PM depending on the social and networking. Contact your local Extension or Land and Water Conservation Office for more details. Registration materials will be available soon.



Dairy Situation and Outlook, April 21, 2021

Bob Cropp, Professor Emeritus, UW-Madison

Despite relatively strong milk production growth dairy product prices continued to show strength during April. While prices on the CME moved up and down during the month, the price of cheese, dry whey, butter and nonfat all strengthened. The 40-pound cheddar block price was as low as \$1.74 per pound, strengthened to \$1.80 and current is \$1.7950. Cheddar barrels were as low as \$1.5125 per pound but have strengthen currently to \$1.8050. Barrels have been well below the block price but now have surpassed blocks. Dry whey ranged from \$0.63 per pound to \$0.7025 and currently is \$0.6825. Butter ranged from \$1.8150 per pound to \$1.950 and currently is \$1.7925. Nonfat dry milk ranged from \$1.18 per pound to currently at \$1.24. The result of these stronger dairy product prices the April Class III price will be near \$17.70 compared to \$16.15 for March and the April Class IV price near \$15.50 compared to \$14.18 for March.

Continued improvement in the economy, further opening of restaurants, return of fans to sports events, return of conferences and in person classroom instruction all for the second half of the year would support milk prices. With some improvement in the world economy, modest increase in milk production around 1% for major dairy exporters like Western Europe, New Zealand and Australia, and U.S. dairy product prices competitive on the world market should all be favorable for dairy exports this year. But unless milk production ends up less than what USDA is currently forecasting there will a lot of pressure on milk prices.

So, uncertainty as to where milk prices will end the year continues. Unless milk production ends up lower than what USDA is currently forecasting, in my opinion \$19 Class III futures are too optimistic. I could see Class III in the \$17's. I hope I am wrong, but time will tell. We will need to keep watching how things develop month to month.

Farmland Preservation Self-Certification Post Card

FPP participants will be required to maintain their eligibility as follows:

- Annually submit a FPP Self Certification Postcard (July 15th)
- Annually submit a 590 NMP Checklist **Form ARM-LWR-480**
- Receive an onsite NR 151 compliance status review once every 4 years (Year determined by LWCD)

The self-certification postcards will be mailed to all Farmland Preservation participants the first week of June. A return date of July 15, 2021, will apply. Participants will have the option to complete the postcard through an online log-in process (www.co.columbia.wi.us/columbiacounty/), or return the postcard to the Columbia County Land and Water Conservation Department. All postcards must be postmarked before July 15, 2021, or they will be charged a \$10.00 late fee.

FPP Participants who do **Not** maintain their eligibility by submitting the annual self-certification postcard, annually providing a 590 Nutrient Management Checklist and maintaining NR 151 Compliance can have their Certificate of Compliance ID # voided with the Department of Revenue, thus removing their ability to claim the Farmland preservation Tax Credit for the applicable tax season. For questions, please contact the LWCD office at 608-742-9670.

Farmland Preservation Program Required Farm Inspections

The Columbia County Land and Water Conservation Department will be conducting the required farm inspections throughout 2021 for ¼ of the certified program participants. It is important that you understand the questions asked for the self-certification process. If you unsure of your status, or what a question means, please contact the LWCD and we will help you through it. As part of our inspection process, we will use a combination of in office technology and onsite evaluations to monitor your status. If we find a compliance issue, our first step will be to work with you to bring it into compliance, but it could jeopardize your participation. This link is a quick reference to the range of evaluation components we will be looking at: <http://runoffinfo.uwex.edu/pdf/WisRunoffRules.pdf>

NRCS Announces Second EQIP Signup for 2021 Funding Apply by May 21, 2021



Providing Conservation Practices to Protect Natural Resources

Farmers and forest landowners will want to plan ahead and sign up early for USDA's second round of conservation funding. Angela Biggs, [USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) (NRCS) State Conservationist in Wisconsin, announced farmers and forest landowners interested in the [Environmental Quality Incentives Program \(EQIP\)](#) need to apply by May 21, 2021, for funding in 2021. Applications are being taken at all [USDA Service Centers](#) in Wisconsin.

EQIP is the primary program available to farmers and landowners for farm and woodland conservation work, offering payments for over 120 basic conservation practices. Last year, Wisconsin received over \$33 million in funds for EQIP practices.

All eligible applications received by May 21, 2021, will be evaluated, prioritized and ranked for funding in 2021. Farmers may contact their local USDA Service Center to get started on producer eligibility and planning. Biggs reminds farmers who are interested in practices that may require permits, such as manure storage or streambank restoration, to begin planning and seeking permits as soon as possible. Applicants with shovel-ready projects (designs completed and permit applications submitted) will receive a higher ranking.

Sign up for several special initiatives focusing on conservation efforts.

Special sign-up opportunities are also now open for Conservation Activity Plans, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Honey Bee, as well as several landscape-based initiatives. Special initiatives are also available for socially disadvantaged and other historically underserved customers at increased payment rates. All offer technical and financial assistance through EQIP.



NRCS Announces Second EQIP Signup for 2021 Funding Apply by May 21, 2021 (con't)

Honey Bee: The upper Midwest is the resting ground for over 65 percent of commercially managed honey bees in the country. The NRCS is helping farmers and landowners implement conservation practices that will provide safe and diverse food sources for honey bees. Pasture management, wildlife habitat and appropriate cover crops are used as tools to improve the health of our honey bees, which support more than \$15 billion worth of agricultural production.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative: Through the [Great Lakes Restoration Initiative](#) (GLRI), NRCS offers financial assistance to agricultural producers for implementing practices that improve water quality in selected watersheds. Newly eligible watersheds for 2021 include the Pensaukee River, Oconto River and Peshtigo River. These watersheds are in addition to the existing Door-Kewaunee Rivers, Lower Fox River, Manitowoc-Sheboygan, Milwaukee River, Upper Fox River, Wolf River and Lake Winnebago watersheds.

National Water Quality Initiative: The [National Water Quality Initiative](#) (NWQI) is designed to help individual agricultural producers take actions to reduce the runoff of sediment, nutrients and pathogens into waterways where water quality is a critical concern. The goal is to implement conservation practices in focused watersheds in a concentrated area so that agriculture no longer contributes to the impairment of water bodies within these priority watersheds. Eligible watersheds include Bear Lake-Little Wolf River in Waupaca County and North Branch Little River in Oconto County.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program: The [Regional Conservation Partnership Program](#) (RCPP) promotes coordination between NRCS and its partners to deliver conservation assistance to producers and landowners. NRCS provides assistance to producers through partnership agreements and through program contracts or easement agreements. Current active projects for water quality improvement are located within the Oconomowoc River watershed to improve water quality and projects to improve fish and wildlife habitat stream and riparian habitat in the Driftless Area.

Landowners interested in applying for EQIP funding should contact their local NRCS office at the [USDA Service Center](#) for their county. For more information, visit www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov.

Helping People Help the Land

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.





*Lexie Meyer, County Executive Director,
USDA - Farm Service Agency,
2912 Red Fox Run, Portage, WI 53901
608.742.5361 Ext. 7350*

United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Reminds Producers to Complete Crop Acreage Reports

Agricultural producers in Columbia County must complete [crop acreage reports](#) by the July 15 deadline. The July 15 deadline applies to all spring-seeded crops: including dry edible beans, dark and light red kidney beans, perennial forage, pasture, rangeland, forage seeding, and all CRP acreage.

The following acreage reporting dates are applicable for Columbia County:

July 15, 2021: All spring-seeded crops; including dry edible beans, dark and light red kidney beans, perennial forage, pasture, rangeland, forage seeding, and all CRP acreage

August 17, 2021: Processing snap beans, cabbage, & industrial hemp

The Columbia County FSA office will provide maps to producers along with instructions for completing and returning the maps through either mail, email or drop box. After planting is complete, producers must return the maps and information to the county office.

After completed maps and all acreage reporting information is received, FSA will make software updates and send producers the completed *Report of Acreage* form (FSA-578) to sign. Producers must return the signed form certifying their acreage report to the FSA office through mail, email or Box by **July 15**.

The following exception applies to acreage reporting dates:

* If the crop has not been planted by the acreage reporting date, the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy holders should note that the acreage reporting date for NAP-covered crops is the earlier of the dates listed above or 15 calendar days before grazing or harvesting of the crop begins.

For questions, please call the Columbia County FSA office at: 608-742-5361 x2.



*Lexie Meyer, County Executive Director,
USDA - Farm Service Agency,
2912 Red Fox Run, Portage, WI 53901
608.742.5361 Ext. 7350*

United States Department of Agriculture

FSA Opens CFAP 2 Signup for Additional Enrollment: Updates Additional CFAP Provisions

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced that signup has reopened for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 (CFAP 2) as part of the Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative. The initial CFAP 2 signup ended on Dec. 11, 2020, but USDA has reopened sign-up for CFAP 2 for at least 60 days beginning April 5, 2021, for producers to apply or make modifications to existing CFAP 2 applications.

CFAP 2 provides direct financial relief to producers due to market disruptions and associated costs because of COVID-19. CFAP 2 payments will be made for three categories of commodities – Price Trigger Commodities, Flat-rate Crops and Sales Commodities. Visit farmers.gov/cfap/commodities for a full list of eligible commodities for each category.

Price Trigger Commodities

Price trigger commodities are major commodities that meet a minimum 5-percent price decline over a specified period of time. Eligible price trigger crops include barley, corn, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, upland cotton, and all classes of wheat. Payments will be based on 2020 planted acres of the crop, excluding prevented planting and experimental acres.

For broilers and eggs, payments will be based on 75 percent of the producers' 2019 production.

Dairy (cow's milk) payments will be based on actual milk production from April 1 to Aug. 31, 2020. The milk production for Sept. 1, 2020, to Dec. 31, 2020, will be estimated by FSA.

Eligible beef cattle, hogs and pigs, and lambs and sheep payments will be based on the maximum owned inventory of eligible livestock, excluding breeding stock, on a date selected by the producer, between April 16, 2020, and Aug. 31, 2020.

Flat-rate Crops

Crops that either do not meet the 5-percent price decline trigger or do not have data available to calculate a price change will have payments calculated based on eligible 2020 acres multiplied by \$15 per acre. These crops include alfalfa, extra long staple (ELS) cotton, oats, peanuts, rice, hemp, millet, mustard, safflower, sesame, triticale, rapeseed, and several others.



Lexie Meyer, County Executive Director,
USDA - Farm Service Agency,
2912 Red Fox Run, Portage, WI 53901
608.742.5361 Ext. 7350

United States Department of Agriculture

Applying for CFAP 2

Visit farmers.gov/cfap for details on all eligible commodities, producer eligibility, payment limitations and structure and additional program resources.

Producers have multiple options to apply for CFAP 2, including through an online application portal and by working directly with the FSA office. Customers seeking one-on-one support with the CFAP 2 application process can call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer assistance.

Additional CFAP Payments for Beef and Row-Crop Producers

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, authorizes an increase in CFAP 1 payment rates for cattle. Cattle producers with approved CFAP 1 applications will automatically receive these payments and do not need to submit a new application since payments are based on previously approved CFAP 1 applications. Producers may be asked for additional information depending on how they filed the original application. Information on the additional payment rates for cattle can be found on farmers.gov/cfap.

This act also authorized additional CFAP assistance of \$20 per acre for producers of eligible CFAP 2 flat-rate or price trigger commodities. FSA will automatically issue payments to eligible producers based on the eligible acres included on their CFAP 2 applications. Eligible producers do not need to submit a new CFAP 2 application.



Lexie Meyer, County Executive Director,
USDA - Farm Service Agency,
2912 Red Fox Run, Portage, WI 53901
608.742.5361 Ext. 7350

United States Department of Agriculture

File a Notice of Loss for Failed Acres and Prevented Planted Acres

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers to report prevented planted and failed acres in order to establish or retain FSA program eligibility for some programs. FSA is providing additional flexibilities for producers to file on acres with failed crops or crops that were prevented from planting because of extreme weather events.

For insured crops, producers who timely filed a prevented planted claim with the reinsurance company but filed a *Notice of Loss* (CCC-576) form by the July 15 deadline will be considered timely filed for FSA purposes.

For uninsured crops, producers may start a *Notice of Loss* by calling their FSA county office.

For prevented planted acreage, *Notice of Loss forms* mailed to the FSA office must be postmarked within 15 calendar days after the final planting date determined for the crop by FSA in the county to be considered timely filed. For all prevented planted cases, the *Report of Acreage* (FSA-578) form and the completed and signed *Notice of Loss* **must** be filed within 15 calendar days after the final planting date determined for the crop by FSA in the county to be considered timely filed.

For failed acreage of uninsured crops, the *Notice of Loss* must be completed, signed and verified **before** the disposition of the crop.

Producers of hand-harvested crops must notify FSA of damage or loss through the administrative county office within 72 hours of the date of damage or loss first becomes apparent. This notification can be provided by filing a CCC-576 via email, fax or phone. Producers who notify the county office by any method other than by filing the CCC-576 are still required to file a CCC-576, *Notice of Loss*, within the required 15 calendar days.

For losses on crops covered by the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP), producers must file a *Notice of Loss* within 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent. Producers must timely file a *Notice of Loss* for failed acres on all crops including grasses.

Please call the Columbia County FSA Office at 608-742-5361 x2 to file a *Notice of Loss*.

Columbia County Extension Office Hours - 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Sarah Millard and Lori Swanson, Extension's Administrative Assistants, staff the office Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Guidance from UW-Madison is allowing Extension Educators to return to the office. We must continue social distancing and wear facemasks when meeting with the public.

George is able to make farm visits and may meet with individuals in our conference room. Please call to make an appointment.

Beginning June 1st, Extension Guidance allows for indoor in-person events limited to 350 people maximum and less than 50% capacity. Protocols for face covering and social distancing remain in place. Participant totals for outdoor events are up to 500 people still requiring face coverings and 6 feet of social distancing.

Columbia County Extension is only a phone call or email away. We provide up-to-date University research based answers and advice in a timely manner.

STAFF DIRECTORY

UW-Extension Columbia County Agriculture Staff

George Koepp, Agriculture Agent.....(608) 742-9682
george.koepp@wisc.edu

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.— 4:30 p.m. Monday—Friday

Office: (608) 742-9680; Fax: (608) 742-9862; <https://columbia.extension.wisc.edu/agriculture/>

Columbia County Extension Office Staff

Kathleen Haas, Community Resource Educator(608) 742-9683
Pat Wagner, Positive Youth Development Educator(608) 742-9685
Caitlin Richardson, WI FoodWise Coordinator(608) 742-9693
Sarah Millard, Administrative Assistant(608) 742-9688
Lori Swanson, Administrative Assistant(608) 742-9687
Vacant, Human Development & Relationships Educator.....(608) 742-9686
Web Site: <https://columbia.extension.wisc.edu/>

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If you have a change of email, address or would like to be removed, please call the Columbia County Extension office at (608) 742-9680 or email your request to:
sarah.millard@wisc.edu

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**Columbia County Extension
Columbia County Ag Reporter
112 E. Edgewater Street, Room 212
Portage, WI 53901
608-742-9680**

Or Current Resident