

To All Ag Reporter Email Recipients:

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Hops Webinar, July 27, Noon-1PM

The UW Emerging Crops Team is hosting a summer webinar series to provide information on new and emerging crops in Wisconsin. Back for an encore performance, Jerry Clark and Carl Duley will present the latest and greatest on hops production in Wisconsin. The webinar is being held via zoom and [registration](#) is required to access the zoom connection information.

Wisconsin Hazelnut Field Day, August 12, Verona, WI, 4-6PM

The annual Wisconsin Hazelnut Field Day is scheduled for Thursday, August 12, and will be held at the West Madison Agricultural Research Station in Verona, WI. Start time is 4PM. The field day will include an update on hazelnut production in the Upper Midwest, a chance to see hazelnut harvesters, and a tour of the UMHDI Hazelnut Joint Performance Trial including improved hazelnut varieties from Grimo Nut Nursery in Ontario, the Hazelnut Consortium, and the Upper Midwest Hazelnut Development Initiative. The event is free and open to the public but [registration](#) is requested.

Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival

What: Pen of 3 Commercial Carcass Competition / Q & A session to follow judging

When: 10:00 am Sunday, September 12, 2021

Where: Indoor Arena at Jefferson Co. Fair Park, Jefferson, in conjunction with the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival.

Why: The Pen of 3 Carcass Competition is an opportunity for sheep producers including 4-H and FFA members to receive both a live evaluation by a commercial lamb buyer and indexing measurements taken after harvest to determine loin eye, back fat, and leg score to assist them with genetic, breeding and feeding decisions for their respective flocks.

How: Lambs are entered through ShoWorks on the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival website, www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com, click on Education - Pen of 3 and follow entry instructions.

Who: Open to members of the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Breeders Cooperative.

Entry Cost: \$25/pen

We would like to invite 4-H and FFA members and any interested producers to participate in this unique educational experience.

During the live evaluation, the lamb buyer will be available to answer questions regarding factors important for placing, purchasing, and transport of lambs. At 10:30 am, following the completion of the live evaluations, there will be a presentation The Lamb Market - A Reality Check which will take place in the Indoor Arena. There is no cost to attend.

Sheep producers participating in the event will be also on hand to discuss their sheep, the breed and breeding program, feeding, management, and their views regarding this reality-based competition.

Participation by the public is also encouraged. Interested festival goers can place pens according to their preference and to estimate the loin eye size of a lamb of their choice. Results of this portion of the event will be posted in the online version of the Wisconsin Shepherd (wisbc.com) and on the Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival website.

Payouts will be based on live and carcass evaluation. UW- Madison meats lab is buying the lambs at market price.

The Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival is a function of the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative. For information on membership and the activities of the co-op, please visit www.wisbc.com or call 608 743-9080 (weekdays after 5:00 pm).

Please direct any questions regarding the Pen of 3 Carcass Competition to:

Lisa Paskey, Coordinator
lrpaskey@gmail.com
608-669-3996

Columbia County Fair 2021

Don't forget to attend the Columbia County Fair this weekend. Lots of activities are still taking place.

Friday, July 23

9 am	Dairy Show – Ag Building
9 am	Poultry Judging – Ag Building
10 am	Meat Goat Judging – Swine, Sheep, and Goat Barn Arena
4:30 pm	Columbia County Pork Partners Barbecue – Under the Grandstand
7:00 pm	Cat Show – Ag Building
7:30 pm	Demo Derby - Grandstand

Saturday, July 24

8:30 am	Horse Speed Show – Horse Arena
11:00 am	Buyers Buffet – Back of Fair Office
1:00 pm	Sale of Champions – Ag Building
4:00 pm	Steak Fry at Farm Bureau Eat Stand
7:00 pm	Rodeo – Grandstand

Sunday, July 25

7:00 am	FFA Breakfast – Fair Office Building
10:00 am	Showman of Showmen – Ag Building
12:00 pm	Recognition of Champions – Ag Building
4:00 pm	Fair Closes and exhibits released

Agronomy/Soils Field Day – August 25

The Departments of Soil Science and Agronomy in collaboration with the Arlington Ag Research Station invite you to join us at the Agronomy/Soils Field Day on August 25, 2021. After our pandemic hiatus in 2020, we are excited to see you and have put together a stellar program highlighting College of Ag and Life Sciences research on emerging technology, crops, and cropping practices that will improve the sustainability and resilience of our cropping systems.

We are trying a new format for the field day this year. The tour will consist of six stops with two speakers at each stop. We will have a shotgun start, meaning you will be able to participate in all 12 presentations.

Registration is required this year and is free. Register online at: <https://go.wisc.edu/a32g16> or call 608-262-0485.

AGRONOMY/SOILS FIELD DAY

Wednesday August 25, 2021
UW-Arlington Agricultural Research Station



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College of Agricultural & Life Sciences
Division of Extension

8:00	Check-in. Coffee/water. Registration is required and free. Advance registration is strongly suggested (see below).
8:30	Field tour — shotgun start. All participants will see all presentations.
Stop 1	Cost Effective Soil Moisture and Carbon Monitoring Using Sensor Technology Jingyi Huang Evaluating Corn N Need Across Wisconsin Carrie Laboski
Stop 2	Sustainable Intensification Using Cover Crops Matt Buark Mighty Microbes: An Integral Component of Soil Health Certified Crop Advisors Zac Freedman 5.0 CEO credits requested
Stop 3	Kernza Intermediate Wheatgrass: A New Perennial Grain and Forage Crop for Wisconsin Valentin Picasso Soil Health, Micronutrients, and Small Grain, Oh My! Lindsay Chamberlain, Emma Matcham , and Haleigh Ortmeier-Clarke
Stop 4	Can We Stop Carbon Loss from Soils? Randy Jackson and Gregg Sanford Maximum Yield vs. Economic Optimum Yield: How \$7 Corn Influences Management? Joe Lauer
Stop 5	Integrated Weed Management in Corn and Soybeans (Research Update) Rodrigo Werle and Nick Arneson Killing Pasture Weeds and Not Harming Clover: Experience with a Soon To Be Registered "Clover-Safe" Herbicide Garret Imhoff and Mark Renz
Stop 6	Using Entomopathic Nematodes for Corn Rootworm Control Bryan Jensen Research-based Solutions for Disease Prediction in Field Crops Damon Smith
12:00	Have a safe trip home!

Please register by August 15 at <https://go.wisc.edu/a32g16> or call 608-262-0485



Arlington ARS is located off Hwy 51, about 5 miles south of Arlington and 15 miles north of Madison.

N695 Hopkins Rd,
Arlington, WI 53911

GPS coordinates:
43.300467, -89.345534

As of May 27, UW-Madison COVID-19 policies for outdoor events do not require face coverings for fully vaccinated individuals; unvaccinated individuals are encouraged to maintain six feet of physical distance or wear a face covering (<https://news.wisc.edu/covid-19-policy-changes-events-face-coverings-outdoor-physical-distancing/>). If campus COVID-19 policies become more restrictive than this, we will email registered participants by 7:00 pm on August 24.

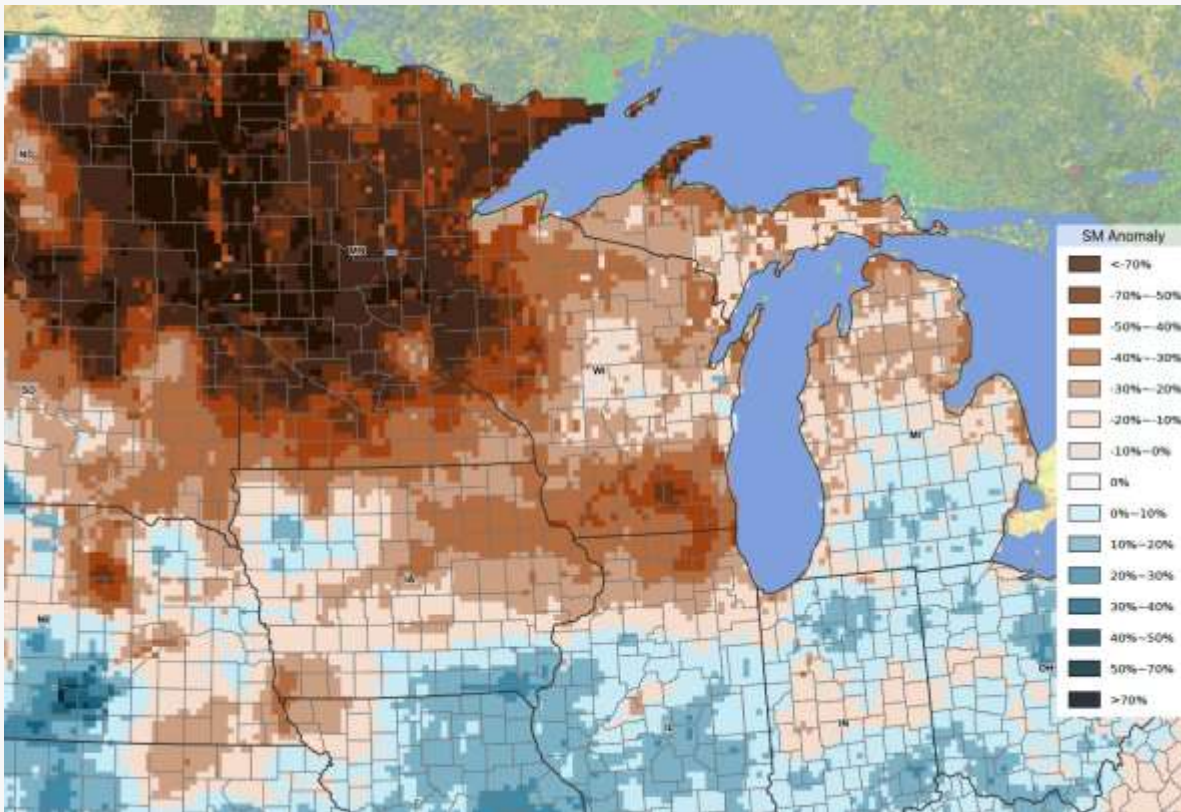
In the event of rain, the field day will be postponed until Thursday, August 26. Registered attendees will be emailed by 7:00 pm on August 24 if the field day is being postponed.

The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences will make a reasonable effort to provide accommodations for participants with disabilities when notified in advance. Request a disability accommodation by August 15 when registering. Efforts will be made to meet same day requests to the extent possible.

Two-Spotted Spider Mites and Dry Weather

Bryan Jensen, Dept. of Entomology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Two-spotted spider mites (TSSM) have been a difficult one to predict this year. Early season drought conditions really concerned me. Lately, spotty rains seemed to slow generational time in areas receiving rain. [However, other areas continued with the dry weather.](#) As I write this article the extended forecast calls for above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall. I do think it will be beneficial for all to do some spot checking for mites and their damage. This is one arthropod you do not want to play catch up with. However, impatience and use of insurance sprays will create problems you don't want to have.



Crop-CASMA (Crop Condition and Soil Moisture Analytics), Center For Spatial Information Science and Systems

TSSM overwinter in grassy areas and typically infest fields from the margins or may spin tiny threads which can carry adults further into a field. Adults are very small (0.3-0.4 mm) and range in color from pale yellow to brown. They will have 8 legs and have two spots. Immatures are either six (larvae) or eight legged (nymphs). Eggs are small, spherical and light colored. All life stages are found primarily on the undersides of leaves.

During typical summer temperatures TSSM may go through a generation in 14+ days. However, under optimal conditions (hot and dry) that generational time can be reduced to approximately 7 days. Sex ratios are variable, but favor females.



Twospotted spider mite adults (above) and eggs (below). Photo: Peter Sonnentag (2005)

TSSM life stages

TSSM damage plants by penetrating cells with their mouthparts and sucking out the contents. Symptoms first appear as stippling and progress to yellowing, bronzing and, eventually on soybeans, leaf drop. These symptoms are often mistaken for drought. Under high populations webbing may also be present. Although “spider mites are where you find them”, infestation typically start along field edges or in drought stressed areas of the field.

There are several predators which can help keep TSSM populations in check under favorable conditions and are a primary reason why broad-spectrum insecticides should only be used when necessary. Not as insurance applications or at subeconomic populations. Other mortality factors include heavy rains and high humidity. A return to cool weather will also slow generational time.

Scouting for TSSM should include both observing the crop for symptoms and looking for the mites themselves. Familiarize yourself with early symptoms of mite injury which is often called stippling and is best described as small, discolored spots on the leaves. Spider mites are small; however, detection can be aided by taping leaves onto a white sheet of paper. Dislodged mites will be relatively mobile and easy to spot on the white background. Confirm identification with a hand lens.



Early symptoms (stippling) of twospotted spider mite damage

Research has not been conducted that can be used to calculate a treatment threshold based on numbers/plant. Treatment in corn should be considered if damage is visible on the lower plant and active mite colonies are active in the middle 1/3 of the plant. For soybean, the following treatment scale has been developed by Ken Ostlie and Bruce Potter, University of MN.

1. No spider mites or injury observed.
2. Minor stippling on lower leaves. No premature yellowing observed.
3. Stippling common on lower leaves. Small areas with yellowing on scattered plants.
4. Spray threshold: Heavy stippling on lower leaves with some stippling progressing into the middle canopy. Mites present in the middle canopy, with scattered colonies in the upper canopy. Lower leaf yellowing is common, and there is some lower leaf loss.
5. Economic loss: Lower leaf yellowing is readily apparent. Leaf drop is common. In the middle canopy, stippling, webbing, and mites are common. Mites and minor stippling present in the upper canopy.
6. Lower leaf loss is common, with yellowing or browning moving up the plant into the middle canopy. Stippling and distortion of the upper leaves are common. Mites are present in high levels in the middle and lower canopy.

Yield reduction caused by leaf loss is permanent and cannot be repaired. Therefore, spraying prior to significant leaf loss (stage 3 on the soybean scale) should be considered. Consider future weather patterns before spraying. If rain and high humidity are predicted in the very near future, consider rescouting in a few days and reassessing your management decision.

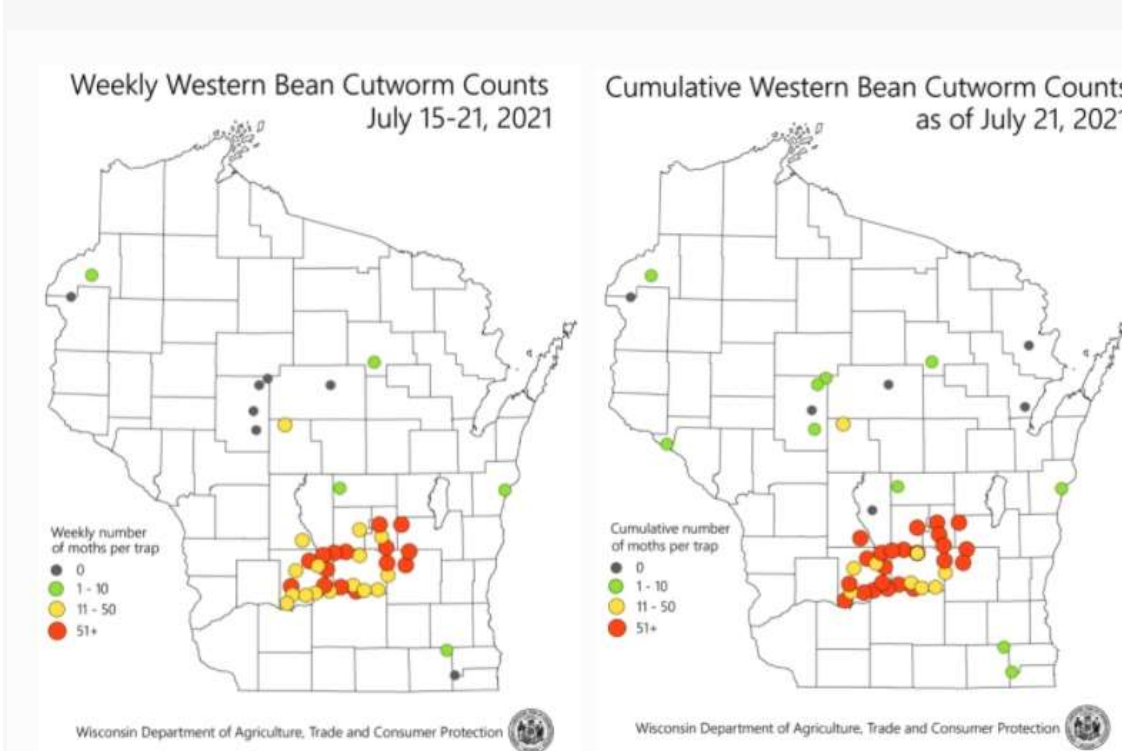
Scout for the presence of other insects (i.e. soybean aphids) before making TSSM control decisions. Their presence/absence may influence your product selection. True miticides will not control insects. Bifenthrin, chlorpyrifos and dimethoate containing products will control both. Read pesticide labels thoroughly. There is a lot to digest. Maximum rates, respray decisions (timing, active ingredients) resistance management, total allowable amount of active ingredients, Reentry restriction, Harvest restrictions (including grazing, forage and silage) and recommended gallons of carrier per acre, are all important parts of the decision-making process.

Some final thoughts. Certain insecticides may indicate suppression (versus control) of TSSM. These products will likely provide TSSM control that is unsatisfactory. Thorough coverage is important for TSSM control. Don't scrimp on GPA and use nozzles designed for through coverage. Don't assume an application was successful. Rescout when allowable and look for signs of resurgence. If a respray is needed, switch mode of action. TSSM are notorious for resistance and many labels will restrict a sequential application of the same, or similar, compound. On soybean, look for secondary pest resurgence. Soybean aphids may significantly increase after a TSSM application.

Western Bean Cutworm

Bryan Jensen, Dept. of Entomology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Checking statewide degree days it looks like the majority of the state should be scouting for western bean cutworm. Pheromone traps have been established at sites throughout Wisconsin to monitor the annual emergence and flight of western bean cutworm moths. The results will be published below and updated weekly from mid-June and continuing through mid-August at this site: https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/PestSurvey.aspx



Western Bean Cutworm Counts for the Week Ending July 22, 2021

When given a choice, adult females prefer pre-tassel corn to lay eggs because pollen is an important food source for larvae prior to moving to the ear. Infestations are often aggregated within a field so thorough field scout is needed. Go to at least 5 different areas of a field and count egg masses on 20 consecutive plants. Often eggs are found on the upper leaf surface on the uppermost leaves. Use the sun to backlight those leaves and look for the shadow of the egg mass. Later during the adult flight, also look for larvae that may have already hatched. Often, they are found in leaf axils feeding on pollen.



Western Bean Cutworm. Photo credit: Frank Peairs, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org

Please see this card for more information on [field scouting](#). Western bean cutworm is an insect pest which can easily go unnoticed until it is too late.

Weekly Emails Online!

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

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