



Outagamie County

FARM BUSINESS NEWS

Outagamie County Agriculture – 832-5119

June, July, August 2015

June

- 3-4 **World Pork Expo** (ZM)
14 **8:00a.m.-12:00p.m. Breakfast on the Farm**, Wichman Farms, Appleton (ZM)
19-20 **High Protein Show**, Fairgrounds, Seymour (ZM)
24 **8:00p.m. Junior Dairy State Fair Meeting**, Town of Center (BM)

July

- 22 **1:00p.m.-5:00p.m Youth Hay Quality Contest**, Fairgrounds, Seymour (KJ)
22-26 **Outagamie County Fair**, Fairgrounds, Seymour (ZM, KJ)
28-29 **Carcass Contests**, Maplewood Roskom (ZM)

August

- TBD **Forage Council Summer Meeting**, Verhasselt Farms, Kaukauna (KJ)
18 **7:15p.m Livestock Auction Banquet**, Doxbee's, Seymour (ZM)
19 **Agronomy/Soils Field Day**, Arlington Ag Research Station (KJ)
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Greetings Producers,

We have some changes coming here at the Extension office. Jean and Mary Lou will both be retiring June 5, 2015. We have an ice cream social on that day from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. if you would like to attend. We have a shorter newsletter for you this time and future newsletters will be adjusted as we move forward in hiring. We also have a dairy and livestock summer intern on board. Bethany Marcks will be working on a few projects for dairy farmers this summer. I have included a summary of the dehorning/disbudding survey work done in the last year. Some interesting ideas emerged as we looked at the data. Also included is an invitation to look at the robotic milking system at Breakfast on the Farm held at Wichman Farms. The Rural Health Initiative fund raiser re-cap is here for your reading. It would be good to utilize this program so we do not lose the opportunity to have home health visits on your farm. Kevin has provided information on crop disease, herbicides and insects. Summer brings many hours of haymaking, crop work, and long days. Play it safe and take some time off to regain or maintain your sanity. Best of luck in the 2015 growing season.

Co-Editors

Kevin Jarek
Crops/Soils/Horticulture
University of Wisconsin Extension - Outagamie County

Zen Miller
Dairy/Livestock
University of Wisconsin Extension - Outagamie County

Help kick off June Dairy Month with

Breakfast on the farm

Sunday, June 14, 2015

Serving breakfast

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Rain or Shine

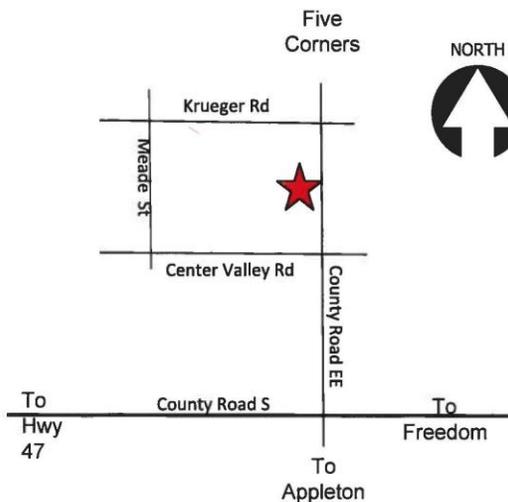


Your hosts will be

Wichman Farms Inc.

Bruce, Faye, Mark, Debbie, and Bradley Wichman

N4735 Cty Rd EE
Appleton, Wisconsin



EVENTS

7:15 am Church Service

Provided by Pastor Roland Lindeman of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Seymour

Delicious Dairy Breakfast

Menu includes a hearty egg omelet, hash browns, breakfast ham, Wisconsin cheese, cinnamon rolls, milk and ice cream

Pedal Tractor Pull

Sponsored by WPS
Weigh In 9:30-10:30, Pull at 10:30

Live Music

by Star Fire

Children's activities including

- Inflatables
- Face Painting
- Addie the Cow
- Farmer Look alike contest - Dress your child like a farmer and they can win a prize!

Farm tours of the Robotic Milking Facility

Petting Zoo

Antique Tractors/ Wagon Rides

TICKETS

At Simon's Cheese

2735 Freedom Road, Appleton

June 8-13th

Adult	\$6.00
Child (5-10)	\$4.00
Child (4 & under)	Free

At the Breakfast

Adult	\$7.00
Child (5-10)	\$5.00
Child (4 & under)	Free



FIND US ONLINE AT: outagamiecountydairypromotion.com
 LIKE US ON FACEBOOK: Outagamie County Dairy Promotion
 TO BE A SPONSOR OR VOLUNTEER CONTACT
 Kelly at (920) 378-4744

Introducing the Outagamie County Dairy and Livestock Summer Intern



My name is Bethany Marcks. I am the Outagamie County Dairy and Livestock Summer Intern. I live and work on my family's registered Holstein dairy farm just outside of Black Creek. I enjoy helping on the farm as well as showing my animals at various shows throughout the summer. When I am not helping on the farm, I enjoy spending time with friends, reading a book or watching any kind of sporting event.

This fall, I will be a sophomore at UW-River Falls. I am majoring in Dairy Science/ Pre-Vet with a Chemistry minor. Upon graduation at UWRF, I plan on attending Veterinary School and become a large animal vet. I am an active member of the UWRF Dairy Club and the UWRF Pre-Vet Club. Next semester, I plan on being involved in the River Falls Collegiate Farm Bureau. Both semesters I have completed, I have been on the Dean's List for the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science.

This summer, I hope to be working with Zen and Sarah Mills-Lloyd, DVM, Agriculture Agent from Oconto County. We will be collecting information associated with calf feeding, cleaning and housing and use this data to improve health of dairy calves. Through this project, I hope to gain more knowledge and experience in the dairy industry and provide Outagamie County dairy farmers with valuable information to reduce calf disease and sickness on their farms. Once I know more about the project I will be asking several of you to participate in this study. I will also be working on other projects and will be at events throughout the county. I am grateful for this opportunity and look forward to meeting and working with area farmers.

The Rural Health Initiative's 4th Annual Wine & Cheese Tasting was a total success! Thank you to everyone that attended and contributed to a fun-filled evening – we couldn't have done it without you.

"The wine and cheese were great. The only thing I would change is I would get there sooner." – 2015 Attendee, Hortonville



The annual signature fundraiser took place on Friday, April 24, 2015 at Crystal Falls Banquet Facility in New London attracting an energetic and social crowd of 194 individuals from Waupaca to Neenah. Attendees enjoyed sampling the wide selection of 46 wines, 38 cheeses, 6 local brews, 3 signature grilled cheeses, and the chance to win one of the 22 silent auction packages and 30 bucket raffle packages. The lucky \$180 Money Tree winner was from Hortonville. Major event sponsors included Larsen Cooperative, First State Bank, ThedaCare, Outagamie Area Dairy Promotions,

Waupaca Area Dairy Promotions, and Milk Source. Visit our website www.wiruralhealth.org to watch the highlight video.

Overall, a total of \$12,225 was raised, all which went directly back into the Rural Health Initiative (RHI) to provide *Kitchen Wellness* to local farmers, agriculturists and agribusinesses within Outagamie, Waupaca, and Shawano counties. *Kitchen Wellness* includes on-site preventive health screening with immediate test results, health coaching, and referral information. All services are convenient (we come directly to your house or business), complimentary, and confidential.

Next year's event will take place Friday, April 22, 2016 in New London. We hope to see you there!

We are truly grateful for your support and proud to serve the hard-working individuals within the agricultural community. If you know someone interested in scheduling a visit, contact Program Manager Shaya Hintz at shaya@rhiwi.org, call the corporate office at 715-524-1488, or visit our website www.wiruralhealth.org

Preliminary Results of Disbudding /Dehorning Survey

By Zen Miller

Many of you have participated in our survey which explained three common disbudding/dehorning processes and then commented on the procedure. Although we are not completely done with this work, I thought you would appreciate some facts that have surfaced from this study. Surveys were completed by 200 people at eight events, with ages ranging from 22-63 years of age and an education range from high school diploma to professional degrees.

Of the 78 farmers who responded to method of dehorning, 49% dehorn calves before eight weeks of age and 28% use paste at a very early age. When asked who trained the person performing this procedure 60% said they learned from their veterinarian.

The horn bud attaches to the bone sometime between 30 and 60 days of age, so early dehorning is less invasive and may cause less pain. It is currently recommended to use pain management (lidocaine and a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory such as meloxicam) whenever calves are disbudded using a hot iron. However, if caustic paste is used, lidocaine should not be used and paste must be applied in the first three days of life. Of the farmers we surveyed, 18% used pain management. Of those who use pain medication, there is not agreement on what should be used. Some use a combination of lidocaine and meloxicam. Most who use pain management indicated they learned and decided to use pain management as a result of a discussion with their veterinarian (81%). Another 26% of farmers listed a lack of understanding on how to use pain management as the reason for not using it.

Polled genetics are being used by 15 of the 82 responding farmers (18%), with another 22 farmers (27%) saying they are interested in learning more about polled genetics. It would appear that we have more educating to do on this subject and have an opportunity for the AI industry to continue getting information out about polled genetics. Eighty-eight percent of farmers are concerned about the public's view of disbudding.

Comments on videos of different dehorning methods

Dehorning at three-four months of age with no lidocaine was viewed as extremely painful by 43% of the viewers, with another 22% who felt it was very painful. Comments listed included: *"appears painful; dehorner applied way too long; looked extremely painful; obvious pain; why wasn't this done before three weeks of age."*

Dehorning at six weeks of age with lidocaine was rated by 45% of the viewers as very little pain. Only 3% of the viewers rated this as extremely painful and another 5% as very painful. Comments include: *"ability to effectively block is important; younger age is better to be more effective; no visual discomfort; pain seems pretty well managed; and when buds are small, calf should be done with little pain."*

The caustic paste video at processing within one hour of birth was rated as no pain by 56% of the viewers, with only 1% seeing it as extremely painful, and 6% as very painful. Comments were long and numerous for this process and include: *"the effectiveness is not well known; pain will come later; not sure if paste burns later and video did not show; was hair clipped around horn bud; never used it and don't know about it; not sure of effectiveness; most difficult to evaluate."*

Finally we asked if they would adopt some new technique about disbudding and dehorning. About 50% said they would change their practices with comments that included: "*already using lidocaine but will try caustic paste; dehorn earlier; do at one - two days of age; will try pain management.*"

Whether we like it or not, our food supply businesses are posting their philosophy on animal care and well being on their websites. I have seen Nestle's and now have a copy of Wal-Mart's animal welfare position. They support the Five Freedoms of animal welfare as an aspiration for animal welfare in their supply chain, which are:

1. Freedom from hunger and thirst
2. Freedom from discomfort
3. Freedom from pain, injury, or disease
4. Freedom to express normal behavior
5. Freedom from fear and distress

In addition, they are asking their suppliers of fresh and frozen meat, deli, dairy and eggs to:

1. Report to authorities and take appropriate disciplinary and corrective action in any case of animal abuse
2. Adopt and implement the Five Freedoms mentioned above
3. Find and implement solutions to address animal welfare concerns
 - a. Housing systems that lack sufficient space, enrichment or socialization
 - b. Painful procedures where avoidable or without pain management (for example tail docking, dehorning, and castration)
 - c. Euthanasia or slaughter without rendering and animal insensible to pain
4. Promote transparency

Our survey provides a short snapshot on current dehorning / disbudding practices. It also has allowed us to assess how the agriculture industry and farmers view the current procedures. Over the course of my lifetime we have improved on these practices; and generally many are currently doing a great job of improving this procedure. The one thing we need to remember in farming is the only constant in life is change. (ZM)

Now is the time to start thinking about Pre-sidedress Soil Nitrate Test Sampling

The corn has been planted and is starting to grow. Now is the time to consider using the pre-sidedress soil nitrate test (PSNT) to help you adjust your sidedress nitrogen fertilizer rates. To learn how and why to take PSNT samples, view this informative video featuring Dr. Carrie Laboski, Extension Soil Scientist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oSlpT10oKog>

(KJ)

Post Emergence herbicides for corn and soybean

Liz Bosak, Outreach Specialist, Department of Agronomy

At this time of the year, integrated weed management programs focus on scouting and diversifying management practices including non-chemical methods and herbicide sites-of-action. For more information, please visit the United Soybean Board's TakeAction website: <http://takeactionweeds.com/manage-your-fields/> and <http://takeactionweeds.com/understanding-herbicides/sites-of-action/>. Michigan State University's Weed Science website has detailed web pages on common weeds in annual crops with biological information and management recommendations, <http://www.msuweeds.com/worst-weeds/>. After each field season, the Herbicide Evaluation Program here at the university publishes efficacy data in a research report available at <http://wcws.cals.wisc.edu/research/herbicide-evaluation-program>. Summary ratings for many weed species are located in "Pest Management in Wisconsin Field Crops" available as a free pdf or in print at Cooperative Extension's Learning Store, <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Pest-Management-in-Wisconsin-Field-Crops2015-P155.aspx>

(KJ)

Wisconsin Winter Wheat Disease Update 5/26

*Damon Smith, Extension Field Crops Pathologist
Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin-Madison*

Winter wheat in the south and south-central portions of Wisconsin is quickly approaching heading. Most wheat we have looked at recently is at boot stage with some beginning to head. Anthesis (flowering) will be occurring very soon if it hasn't already happened in these fields. Now is the time to consider Fusarium head blight (FHB or scab) risk and consider your control options in at-risk fields. With anthesis occurring this week in some fields, and the prolonged wet weather forecast for this week, growers and consultants should pay close attention to this situation. The risk for FHB will likely be high this week especially on susceptible varieties. To learn more about FHB on wheat you can download a fact sheet at:

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/fieldcroppathology/files/2015/03/Fusarium-Head-Blight.pdf>

In addition to considering the weather conditions, you can consult the FHB Prediction Center. I recently wrote a post about the FHB Risk Tool and how to best use it. You can read more about the tool at <http://fyi.uwex.edu/fieldcroppathology/2015/04/20/new-forecasting-system-for-fusarium-head-blight-now-available/>. Currently, the risk tool is predicting medium to high risk only along the Lake Michigan shore. However, I think this will change as we proceed through the week. With the extended chances of rain and high humidity, coupled with moderate to warm temperatures, risk for FHB on susceptible and moderately susceptible cultivars will be medium to high across a wider portion of the state. This will be especially true along the southern portions of Wisconsin where wheat is beginning to flower this week. Caramba and Prosaro have proven to be the best products for FHB control. See <http://fyi.uwex.edu/fieldcroppathology/files/2015/04/2015-NCERA-184-Wheat-fungicide.pdf>. However, timing of application is critical. These products must be applied at first flower with good efficacy achievable up to 5-7 days after the start of anthesis. Fungicide application after 7 days post-anthesis is not recommended. Pay close attention to the FHB situation this week.

Other wheat diseases in Wisconsin have been fairly minimal. My graduate students managed to find and identify how levels of spot blotch on some plants at our Sharon, WI and Arlington, WI locations last Friday (May 22). The severity was relatively low. Rust and other diseases have not been identified in wheat fields we have traveled to. We will continue to scout and monitor the wheat disease situation as we head toward anthesis.

(KJ)

Troubleshooting Early Season Corn Insect Damage 101: What to look for

Bryan Jensen, UW Extension

Troubleshooting early season corn insect damage can be difficult. There are several potential insect pests and some cause similar symptoms. Also, there is the possibility that if environmental and field conditions match up, new or unexpected insect damage may occur. Getting a complete “picture” of the situation will improve your diagnosis or provide more answers to questions if you seek outside help. Sometimes the answers are obvious. Other times, your diagnosis may be complete when several, but not all, clues point to one (or more) insect.

It goes without saying, but try to find the insect causing the damage. Sometimes that is easier said than done. Look in the soil around the root zone, in the soil immediately surrounding the seedling, on the soil surface, under crop residue and in soil cracks. Take your time and be methodical. Early instar black cutworms are small and difficult to locate because they are the same color as many soil types. If you find an unknown insect, take samples (best option) and/or digital pictures. Bring them to your local county extension crops and soils agents for identification or verification. Agents have access to several resources including the UW Entomology Insect Diagnostic Lab. Don't assume that if you find an insect in high numbers it is the culprit. There is a lot of “guilt by association” going on in the insect world.

Dissect the corn seedling. If an insect is found in the plant, make note of where it was located (above/below ground, in the whorl?) Is there an entry hole and is it located below or above ground? This information can help separate below ground insects (wireworms, white grubs, hop vine borer) from some of the above ground insects (stalk borer, billbug). Look to see if the damage is current. That is, are the newly emerging leaves showing symptoms.

Determine if the damage is uniform across the field or if it is spotty. Very few insects will have a completely random distribution. However, damage patterns can tell a story. Hop vine and stalk borer damage can almost exclusively be found along ditches, grassy waterways, fence row and terraces. Some pests, like slugs, are more pronounced in areas with a lot of crop residue. Others may be found in association with broadleaf weeds (black cutworms), yellow nutsedge (billbug) and grassy weeds (armyworms, wireworms).

Injury symptoms can, at best, be used to sort insects into groups but are often not descriptive enough to choose one insect over the other. Rather, plant injury symptoms can be used to rule out certain insects or used to help support diagnosis of others. Feeding on the leaf margin can often point to armyworm, grasshoppers and early instar black cutworms. Plant injury symptoms described as “wilted whorl” or “dead-heart” can include white grub, black cutworm, hop vine borer, stalk borer and wireworm. If symptoms include holes in the newly emerging leaves it might lead you to a stalk borer or billbug diagnosis. One exception is slug injury. Slugs have a very distinctive injury symptom which includes elongated feeding scars that may or may not have the leaf cuticle intact.

One final point. We occasionally get insects, which for some reason, flare up on either a local or landscape level. Some may be known corn pests and other not. Remember the variegated cutworm outbreak in 2012? Very extreme weather fronts brought this insect to Wisconsin at unprecedented levels. On a local scale, insects such as sandhill, glassy, spotted and dingy cutworms can be found in individual fields or even isolated areas of fields. Bring unknown insects and damage in for diagnosis. The benefits are many and will include accurate diagnosis, appropriate management decisions and data for field histories. Additionally, it gives us (UW Extension) a better feel for trends and we can get the word out.

(KJ)