



Shawano County

Shawano County UWEX
311 North Main Street
Shawano, WI 54166
(715) 526-6136

Website:

<http://shawano.uwex.edu>

Like us on Facebook at:

uwex.shawano.ag

Follow us on Twitter at:

@Ag_UWEXShawano

Hours:

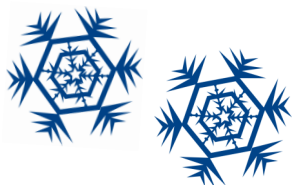
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Ag Agent:

Jamie Patton
jamie.patton@ces.uwex.edu

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Cow College
- Woods Forums
- Mid and Early-Career Dairy Producers
- Pesticide Applicator Training
- CAFO Meeting
- RHI Wine and Cheese
- Raising Quality Heifers
- Grain Crops Clinic
- Forage Council Annual Meeting
- Cattle Feeders Update
- CRP Signup Information



Shawano Ag Newsletter

University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension

January/February 2016

Greetings!

Happy New Year! I hope your holiday season was enjoyable and memorable! My family made the trip to east-central Iowa to visit family and friends. We were welcomed with just enough snow to make it feel like Christmas and left the state just in time to beat the real winter weather back to Shawano County. Now it's time to buckle down and get ready for three months of great educational programs! Inside this issue you will find a number of meetings offered in and around the county in January and February. Although newsletters are now sent on a bi-monthly basis, I try my best to keep the Ag webpage (<http://shawano.uwex.edu/agriculture/calendar/>) and the Extension Facebook page up-to-date with local and state programs of interest. I also include regional programs I believe may be of interest, such as the Soil Health Conference at Iowa State University in early February.

As we move ahead, I, like you, don't have a crystal ball, but it looks almost certain that 2016 is gearing up to be an interesting year. The experts are forecasting potentially low commodity prices for both dairy and cash grain enterprises over the next 12 months. Proactively managing your costs of production and being strategic with commodity marketing plans will be key in helping to weather the continued down turn in markets. Along these lines, you will notice that many of our winter programs focus on improving farm production and financial efficiencies, such as managing feeding and bottlenecks to improve productivity (Cow College), as well as optimizing input expenses and reducing risk on both the crop side (Grain Crops Clinic and Forage Production Clinic/Forage Council Meeting) and dairy side (Raising Quality Heifers). In addition to these and other educational programs offered over the next few months, UW-Extension has several on-line resources, such as the 2016 Crop Budget Analyzer (<http://waupaca.uwex.edu/2015/10/09/uwex-crop-budget-spreadsheet/>) and the UW-Extension Dairy Team website (<http://fyi.uwex.edu/dairy/>), along with specialists and Agriculture Agents to help you find the information you need to make sound business decisions for your operation.

I wish you all the best in the New Year and look forward to serving you in 2016! Don't hesitate to give me a call or e-mail, if I can be of help.

Jamie



Mid and Early-Career Dairy Producer and Agribusiness Professionals Group Informational Meeting

Mid and early-career dairy producers and agribusiness professionals in Shawano, Oconto and Marinette counties are invited to attend an informational meeting on **Tuesday, January 26th** at the **Gillett Library Community Center** (former BMO Harris Bank, 200 East Main Street, Gillett, WI). The meeting will begin at **1:00 pm**. Attendees will discuss the revival of the former “Young Dairy Producer” group.

The benefits of participating in a mid and early-career dairy producer group are:

Deal with complex issues –face-to-face groups enable farmers and professionals to discuss complex issues and gain a collective understanding of challenges and potential solutions

Capacity building of individuals, groups and communities – face-to-face groups are an effective means for developing skills and knowledge in an environment where individual participation is encouraged

Enabling innovation – face-to-face groups encourage innovation and new ideas to common and complex problems

Networking – face-to-face groups can enhance networking and enable a pooling of skills and knowledge from individuals

In short, the purpose of mid and early-career farmer group is to provide an environment for collective learning, sharing, networking, and problem-solving...and have fun while doing it!

There is no cost to attend the program and light refreshments will be provided.

If you have more questions about this event, please contact Sarah Mills-Lloyd at 920-834-6845 or sarah.millsloyd@uwex.edu or Jamie Patton at 715-526-6136 or jamie.patton@uwex.edu.

Private Pesticide Applicator Training—Shawano County

You have two options to become certified or recertified as a private pesticide applicator. The first option is to attend one of the private pesticide applicator training programs conducted by UW-Extension and then satisfactorily complete the evaluation at the end of the session. The minimum score to pass the examination for those attending the training session is 50 percent.

The second option is to study the materials on your own and arrange to take the test at the Shawano County Courthouse on the dates listed below. Those choosing the test only option must score 70 percent on the evaluation to pass.

Two training sessions will be held in Shawano County in 2016, both in room A/B of the Shawano County Courthouse:

Tuesday, February 9th and Thursday, March 17th

Training sessions will begin at 10 am and end approximately at 3 pm. You will have a 45 minute break for lunch; lunch is on your own. You only need to attend one of the two sessions.

You will need to bring a calculator and your training manual to the session / exam. Additionally, the State of Wisconsin requires any person taking a certification exam to provide positive identification and their Social Security number. Acceptable forms of positive ID include a: driver’s license, state-issued identification card and/or birth certificate.

You, or someone for you, must register in person for the training session at the Shawano Extension Office.

The registration fee is \$30.

Calendar of Local Upcoming Events

Date	Workshop	Location	Cost	Registration Requirement
January 5, 12	Cow College	Fox Valley Tech Clintonville	\$5 per mtg \$10 for 3	Shawano UWEX
January 6	Agromony Update	Kimberly or Wausau	Check with Location	Outagamie or Marathon UWEX
January 19	Cow College Tours	Weyauwega	\$5 per mtg \$10 for 3	Shawano UWEX
January 19	Income Opportunities from your Woods: Maple Syrup	Birnamwood	Donation	Marathon UWEX
January 21	2016 Crop Cost of Production Analysis and Decision-Making	Lena Town Hall Lena	\$10	Marinette UWEX
January 26	Mid and Early-Career Dairy Producers Reorganization Meeting	Gillett Community Center Gillett	\$0	None
February 2	Getting Rid of Invasives in your Woods	Tilleda	Donation	Marathon UWEX
February 9	Pesticide Applicator Training	Shawano County Courthouse	\$30	Shawano UWEX
February 11	Dairy Price Risk Management	Lena Town Hall Lena	\$15	Marinette UWEX
February 12	Rural Health Initiative Wine and Cheese Tasting Fundraiser	The Main Event Cecil	\$30	Premier Bank- Shawano
February 12	CAFO Meeting	Tundra Lodge Green Bay	\$30	Brown UWEX
February 16	Raising Quality Heifers	Liberty Hall Kimberly	\$35	Fond du Lac UWEX
February 16	Wildlife in your Woods	Caroline	Donation	Marathon UWEX
February 17	Grain Crops Clinic	Doxbee's Seymour	\$25	Outagamie UWEX
February 18	Shawano County Forage Council Annual Meeting	The Main Event Cecil	\$15	Shawano UWEX
February 23	Cattle Feeder Update	TBD	TBD	Waupaca UWEX
February 24	The Science of Covers	University of Wisconsin Madison	\$50	mcc.msu.edu
March 1	Introduction to Timber Harvesting and Tour of Tigerton Mill	Tigerton	Donation	Marathon UWEX
March 1	Modernization: Building our Dairy Future	Liberty Hall Kimberly	TBD	TBD
March 2	Grain Marketing	Lena Town Hall Lena	\$15	Marinette UWEX
March 9	What's Your Farm's Future: Estate and Farm Succession Planning	Gillett Community Center Gillett	TBD	Shawano UWEX
March 17	Pesticide Applicator Training	Shawano County Courthouse	\$30	Shawano UWEX
March 30	Heart of the Farm	Gillett Assembly of God Gillett	TBD	Shawano UWEX