

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

<u>Website:</u> https:/shawano.extension. wisc.edu

Facebook and Twitter: @AgShawano

<u>Hours:</u> Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

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IN THIS ISSUE: Hay Market Report Dairy Outlook PAT Sessions SCFC Annual Meeting SNAP+ Workshop Cow College Agronomy Update The Fungus Among Us MG Level 1 Training

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## Shawano Ag Newsletter

**University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension** 

December 2019

### Hello All!

The Holiday Season is upon us! Did you know that Shawano ranks 6th out 64 counties producing cultivated Christmas tree sales in the state and 44th out of 1,384 counties in the country? These numbers come from the USDA's 2017 Census of Agriculture. I hope to share a full report on Shawano County once Extension finishes processing the information provided by the census.

In this newsletter I have included a press release from Scott Sanford, UW Extension Engineer and Distinguished Outreach Specialist that covers some information on the gas supply and grain drying. It certainly has been a wet year and now that grain corn is coming off the fields we may have to be creative in our storage options.

Also in this newsletter there are many upcoming meetings covering a wide range of topics from dairy to fungal diseases in crops and many more. I hope that there are several of these topics you are interested in learning about and hope to see you at one or more of these events.

Wishing you a joyous Holiday Season!

Untitos Schmidt

Kimberly Schmidt



### Hay Market Report November 11, 2019 https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/forage/h-m-r/

Upper Midwest Hay Price Summary by Quality Grade

Hay Grade	Bale type	Price (\$/ton)		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
Prime (> 151 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	\$244.00	\$205.00	\$340.00
	Large Square	\$248.00	\$200.00	\$345.00
	Large Round	\$201.00	\$170.00	\$235.00
Grade 1 (125 to 150 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	\$196.00	\$160.00	\$224.00
	Large Square	\$201.00	\$105.00	\$305.00
	Large Round	\$170.00	\$95.00	\$265.00
Grade 2 (103 to 124 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	No Sales Reported		
	Large Square	\$148.00	\$95.00	\$270.00
	Large Round	\$142.00	\$100.00	\$225.00
Grade 3 (87 to 102 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	1	No Reported Sal	es
, S	Large Square	\$150.00	\$40.00	\$190.00
	Large Round	\$113.00	\$30.00	\$220.00

### Dairy Situation and Outlook, November 19, 2019

#### By Bob Cropp, Professor Emeritus

#### **University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension**

#### **University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Milk prices are showing a strong recovery for the last quarter of the year. The Class III price averaged just \$14.30 first quarter, \$16.20 second quarter, \$17.82 third quarter and is estimated to average near \$19.15 fourth quarter averaging about \$2.20 higher for the year compared to last year (\$16.80 vs \$14.61). Class III was \$18.72 in October and will be near \$20.20 for November before falling back to around \$18.60 for December. The last time Class III was above \$20 was November 2014. Much improved cheese prices pushed up the Class III price. On the CME 40-pound cheddar blocks were above \$2 per pound most of September being as high as \$2.375 and most of October before falling below \$2.00 on November 12th and has fallen all the way to \$1.8375. Barrels were as high as \$1.94 per pound on September 16th, fell to \$1.6125 on September 24th before starting to recover reaching \$2 on October11th, staying higher than blocks from October 24th to now, peaking at \$2.39 on November 6th and now has fallen to \$2.15. There were some strange relationships between blocks and barrels. At one time in September barrels were \$0.44 below blocks (\$2.38 vs \$1.94). Then on November 12th barrels were \$0.375 higher than blocks (\$2.315 vs \$1.94).

Cheddar cheese production running 3.1% below a year ago in September, good seasonal cheese sales and strong September cheese exports all tightened cheese stocks, and contributed to higher cheese prices. September cheese exports were 12% higher than a year ago led by increases of 31% to Mexico, 9% to South Korea and exports nearly triple to United Arab Emirates. Cheese exports to date were 3% higher than a year ago. September 30th American cheese stocks were 4.0% lower than a year ago.

The Class IV price was \$16.39 in October and will be near \$16.70 for November and could reach \$17 for December. Higher nonfat dry milk prices have more than offset lower butter prices. On the CME butter prices have been up and down during September and October being as high as \$2.235 per pound and as low as \$1.0475 with October averaging lower than September, and continued weakening in November. Butter is now \$2.0650 per pound. Nonfat dry milk was as low as \$1.0475 per pound early September and has fluctuated up and down since, but trended upward during October and November with the current price at \$1.235. Tighter stocks and higher exports pushed up nonfat dry milk prices. September nonfat dry milk exports were 25% higher than a year ago. Exports were 36% higher to Southeast Asia and 14% higher to Mexico.

After monthly increases of less than 1% February through August U.S. milk production increased 1.3% for both September and October. Milk cow numbers were trending downward since the beginning of the year, but increased 5,000 head September to October. October milk cow numbers were 0.4% lower than a year ago, but 1.7% more milk per netted the 1.3% increase in milk production.

October milk production compared to a year ago showed Texas leading with an increase of 9.3%, followed by increases of 6.0% for Colorado, 4.8% for South Dakota and 3.0% for Michigan. Milk production was up 2.8% in California, 2.3% in both Idaho and New Mexico, 1.8% in New York and 1.0% in Wisconsin. Major deceases in milk production occurred in Virginia -7.0%, Arizona -5.6% and Pennsylvania -3.5%.

Milk prices are forecasted to average higher in 2020 than 2019. A key is the level of milk production. Dairy farmers respond to higher milk prices by producing more milk. But, several factors will dampen increases in milk production. After four and half years of very depressed milk prices dairy farmers lost equity. They will need to build back equity before major expansions. With higher milk prices dairy farmers may find it still profitable to keep lower producing cows. But, the growth in the size of the nation's dairy herd will be limited to the continued exiting of dairy farmers and a tighter supply of dairy replacements. The increase in milk per cow will be dampened by a little higher feed prices and lower quality forages. A wet spring, summer and fall delayed planting, the harvesting of quality hay, haylage and corn silage all of which could impact milk per cow. Furthermore, in the Northeast and the Upper Midwest milk supplies are still keeping milk plant capacities rather tight and at a level to meet market needs so milk plants are not encouraging expanded milk production. USDA is forecasting 2020 milk production to be 1.7% higher than 2019, the result of just 10,000 more milk cows, but 1.7% more milk per cow. I think this increase in milk per cow could end up on the high side.

On the demand side, domestic cheese sales are expected to show continued growth. Dairy exports are expected to be higher than 2019. World milk production amongst the major dairy exports, EU, New Zealand, Argentina and Australia is expected to show only modest growth holding down growth in their dairy exports and opening up opportunities for the U.S. World dairy product prices should also strengthen.

Once the holiday demand for butter and cheese is over and as we move into next year we can expect cheese prices to weaken, which is already occurring and the Class III price to fall below \$18 by January. As of now I could see the Class III price averaging in the \$17.40's for the first quarter, the \$17.30's for the second quarter, the \$18.20's for the third quarter and the \$18.70's fourth quarter for an average near \$18 for the year, more than a \$1.00 higher than 2019. But, this is a higher forecast than USDA which forecast an average of \$17.50. Current Class III futures are also lower especially for the second half of the year when Class III stay well below \$18. But, a lot can happen as we go through the year that will change forecasts.

## **Save the Date!**



### **Shawano County Forage Council Annual Meeting**

Where: Main Event Cecil

When: February 20th

### Join the Shawano County Forage Council for their annual meeting. Speakers will speak on cover crops (agronomics and feeding), alternative forages and water hemp. Lunch is included in registration.

More information on times and registration will be included in the next newsletter as well as posted on the Shawano County Extension website.

## **Private Applicator Training**

Extension Shawano County is holding two sessions to renew private pesticide applicator licenses:

Thursday, January 23rd

and

Tuesday, February 11th

Shawano County Courthouse Meeting Rooms A and B

Registration Begins at 9:45 a.m.

Cost of class is \$40.00 and includes the

Training Manual for the Private Pesticide Applicator, 7th Edition

Please contact the Shawano County Extension office if you have questions. 715-526-6136





November 2019 Contact: Scott Sanford, 608-262-5062, <u>sasanford@wisc.edu</u>

Weather and energy shortages playing havoc on drying corn

Madison, Wis. – A wet spring, colder than normal summer, fall weather that is much colder than normal and now energy shortages due to the cold weather; farmers may be asking what's next said Scott Sanford, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension agricultural engineer in the Department of Biological Systems Engineering.

According to U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service, 95 percent of corn in Wisconsin reached full dent by Nov. 3, but only 20 percent has been harvested versus 50 percent in a typical year. Much of the corn hadn't reached maturity before a killing frost hit, which will likely result in lower test weights noted Sanford.

He added, "Harvest is being hampered by wet and snowy fields and now the cold snap has caused propane and natural gas supplies to tighten or not be available for grain drying."

With the colder than normal temperatures, very little field drying will occur during November or December. Letting corn stand in the field may result in higher losses than if it is harvested and dried. Sanford indicated that a two-year study of field losses found corn left standing after October reported 3-5 percent loss in November, 22 percent in December and if the corn is allowed to stand in the field all winter, a loss of up to 40 percent.

Sanford said farmers should consider the following options.

### Do you need to dry the grain?

If the corn is being used for animal feed, it could be stored in bags or a silo as high moisture corn and used before warm weather in the spring.

### Storing corn at higher moistures

North Dakota State University grain drying expert Ken Hellevang, indicates that corn can be stored at higher moistures depending on the temperature. Corn at 20 percent moisture and 40°F has an allowable storage time of 90 days while corn at 24 percent has a storage life of 40 days at 40°F. Figure 1 shows the allowable storage life for other moistures and temperatures. **The corn must be aerated continuous in the bin at higher moisture levels**.

So how can this help? You could possibly delay drying by one or two months, allowing time for energy supplies to stabilize. You could scout fields and harvest any fields that are 24 percent or less and

Figure 1 - Approximate Allowable Storage Time					
for Cereal Grains (days)					
	Temperature (°F)				
M.C (%)	30	40	50	60	
14	*	*	*	*	
15	*	*	*	240	
16	*	*	230	120	
17	*	280	130	75	
18	*	200	90	50	
19	*	140	70	35	
20	*	90	50	25	
22	190	60	30	15	
24	130	40	15	10	
26	90	35	12	8	
28	70	30	10	7	
30	60	25	5	5	

Hellevang, K. 2011, Corn Drying and Storage Tips for 2011, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND.

store them in bins without drying and only dry fields with corn higher than 24 percent until gas supplies become available to resuming drying. You could also dry corn to approximately 20 percent and then cool it and store it until it can be dried further.

If corn kernel temperatures are near freezing, corn with moistures up to 30 percent moisture could be stored in a poly bag and held for 60 days until it can be dried.

### Dryer Maintenance

Spend some time to make sure your grain dryer is working at peak efficiency.

- Clean all screens daily
- Don't dry what isn't salable
- Screen grains to remove as much foreign matter as possible. This will reduce energy
  consumption and also reduce the chances of dryer fires. Housekeeping is more critical
  when outside air temperatures are cold due to condensation occurring on the dryer
  creating a wet surface for debris to accumulate. The debris may also reduce air flow
  through the dryer resulting in reduced dryer capacity.
- Check pressure regulators, controls and sensors to make sure they are working accurately.

### Dryer operation

The efficiency of drying grain is higher at higher temperatures. According to Hellevang, the amount of energy to remove a pound of water is about 20 percent less at 200°F than at 150°F. The plenum temperatures for a continuous flow dryer are typically in the 180°F to 230°F range.

If the corn moisture is above 25 percent, using higher temperatures in a continuous-flow dryer will reduce drying costs. If you have a multi-stage dryer and wet corn, the first stage could be set at a high temperature and the second stage lower to take advantage of the efficiency of higher drying temperature. Caution – corn exposed to temperatures above 200°F for more than 2 hours are susceptible to browning or scorching especially for corn that is greater than 30 percent moisture. Drying high moisture corn in 2 passes may be necessary to reduce heat damage. If the corn is dried to 20 percent, it could be put in storage and dried later in the winter or next spring.

Natural-air and low-temperature drying are limited to initial corn moisture contents of about 21 percent. Even at that moisture content, air drying is limited in the northern states due to the colder outdoor temperatures in late October and November. The moisture-holding capacity of air is very small at temperatures below about 40°F. Expect to store the wet corn for the winter by cooling it to 20 to 30°F and finishing the drying in the spring when outside temperatures average above 40°F.

### In-bin cooling

Cooling the grain in a bin instead of in the dryer can reduce energy costs by about 15 percent and increase dryer capacity by 20 to 40 percent. Cooling the grain slowing will also reduce kernel stress cracks and can improve test weights compared to rapid cooling in a dryer. The corn would be moved to the storage bin about 1percent to 1.5 percent points above the desired storage moisture content and aerated until it is cooled to the ambient temperature. An aeration fan capacity of at least 0.2 cfm per bushel is required and it will take approximately 75 hours to cool the corn. With cold temperatures, condensation on the bin walls maybe a problem. This can be remedied by cooling the corn to about 90°F before placing it in the bin or moving the corn to a different bin after cooling to mix any condensation with dry corn so mold formation is reduced. Aerate the grain after moving to into a different bin.

For more information on high-moisture corn drying and storage, go to <u>https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/energy/grain-drying-and-storage/</u>

###

SHAWANO



COUNTY

#### LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT 311 N MAIN STREET - COURTHOUSE SHAWANO, WI 54166-2145 Phone (715) 526-6766 Fax (715) 526-6273 www.co.shawano.wi.us

### NOTICE

**DATE:** 10/1/19

TO: NMP WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

FROM: SHAWANO COUNTY LCD

SUBJECT: Save the date for – SnapPlus Workshop

### Hello:

If you are interested writing your own nutrient management plan or just want to gain a better understanding about implementing your plan please "save the date" and join us for:

Event: "SnapPlus" Nutrient Management Planning Workshop

- Date: Wednesday December 18, 2019
- **Time:** 10:00 am 2:30 pm (a sub lunch w/refreshments will be provided at no cost)
- Location: Meeting Rooms A & B (lower level) of Shawano County Courthouse 311 N. Main Street, Shawano
- Agenda: Begin or continue learning SnapPlus computer program: Complete NMP updates for 2019 and plan for 2020 crop year meeting NRCS 590 standard.
- **RVSP:** <u>Contact Shawano County LCD staff by or before **December 4, 2019** if you plan to attend.</u>

Also, let us know if you are bringing a laptop.

- > Please bring your SnapPlus farm file on a thumb drive or your laptop (if you have one).
- If you have soil tests that are over 4 years old, please take new soil samples yet this fall and get them to the lab for analysis.
- If you have new soil tests from this fall please import them into your SnapPlus farm file or bring them on a flash drive or have them e-mailed to us before the workshop.

If you have any questions, let us know.

Looking forward to seeing you there,

### Shawano County Land Conservation Staff

Scott Frank - <u>Scott.Frank@co.shawano.wi.us</u> (Ph) 715-526-4632 Blake Schuebel - <u>Blake.Schuebel@co.shawano.wi.us</u> (Ph) 715-526-4633 Brian Hanson - <u>Brian.Hanson@co.shawano.wi.us</u> (Ph) 715-526-4636 Mary George - <u>Mary.George@co.shawano.wi.us</u> (Ph) 715-526-4627



## Cow College 2020



FVTC Regional Center 525 S. Main Street Hwy 22/45 Clintonville, WI

### January 7 (1-3 PM)

Alternative Forages as Your Primary Feed Source?

**Dr. Matt Akin,** Extension Dairy Management Specialist, UW-Madison Learn how forages like small grains, sorghums and mixes might replace alfalfa in milk cow diets.

### Feeding Strategies to Maximize Milk Components

**Dr. Zach Sawall,** Central WI Dairy Nutritionist/Support Specialist, Vita Plus Corporation Dr. Sawall grew up on a dairy farm just south of Clintonville. He will discuss ways to maximize milk components using dairy nutrition and feeding strategies that can boost dairy farm profitability.

### January 14 (1-3 PM)

### Dairy Breeding Strategies in an Era of High Pregnancy Rates

Dr. Paul Fricke, Extension Dairy Reproduction Specialist, UW-Madison

Getting high producing cows bred on time has always been and will always be one of the of the biggest challenges to dairy farm profitability. As a key advisor to many WI bovine veterinarians and AI organizations, get the latest research on ways to improve and maintain your dairy herd reproductive performance from one of the leading experts in the world.

### Evaluating Your TMR: Little Things Matter the Most!

Jim Livingston, Diamond-V Dairy Team Regional Manager Kimberly Schmidt, Shawano County Extension Ag Educator

Find out how on-farm, real-time TMR mixer evaluations and monitoring the feeding behavior of your cows can help improve production and save you money.

### January 21 - Farm Tour

10:15 AM Fietzer Dairy Farm - E8276 Co Hwy N, Manawa 54949

2016 Lely robotic milking system (6 Bot/3 Paired), six-row natural ventilated 360 Cow freestall barn 11:15 AM *Clinton Dairy Farm* - E8351 State Hwy 22, Bear Creek 54922

2019 Waikato 50 cow rotary parlor, 250 cow holding area & 6-row tunnel ventilated freestall Barn **12:30 PM** Lunch – FVTC Regional Center – State Hwy 22/45, Clintonville (across from Fleet Farm) "Dairy Revenue Protection Insurance" - by Robert Netrefa, GreenStone Farm Credit Services

Register for the sessions you plan to attend	l: January 7	 January 14	 January 21 (Farm Tour)		
Name(s)	Ema	ail			
Address	City	Zip	Phone		
Cost is \$5.00/day or \$10.00 total for all three = \$ ( <mark>Call or send check to UW-Extension by Fri. Jan 3)</mark>					
Waupaca County UWEX Courthouse 811 Harding St Waupaca, WI 54981 715 258-6230	Shawano County UW Courthouse, Rm 101 Shawano, WI 5416 715 526-6136	EX Out 1 33 66 A	agamie County UWEX 65 W Brewster Street Appleton, WI 54914 920-832-4763		

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Please call about special accommodations or food allergies at least 48 hours in advance.

#### 2020 Wisconsin Agronomy Update Meetings

The Department of Agronomy will offer Crop Production and Management Meetings at eight locations during 2020. Joe Lauer and John Gaska will present the latest information on hybrid/variety performance, an analysis and discussion of last year's growing season, and updated recommendations for field crop production. The registration fee includes a meal and information materials. Certified Crop Advisor CEU credits have been requested (3.0 CEU hours-Crop Management). Below is a list of meeting sites, dates and times. A \$45.00 registration fee (which includes the meal) will be charged for the meeting. A "walk-in" fee will be charged to those who have not preregistered. Extra information packets are available for \$21.00 each. Make your reservations with the host agent one week prior to the scheduled meeting date.

Location, date and time	Address	Host Agent		
Janesville	Holiday Inn Express	Nick Baker		
Monday, Jan. 6 at 12:00	3100 Wellington Dr.	Rock Co. Extension Office		
		51 S. Main St.		
		Janesville, WI 53545-3978		
26.11		(608) 757-5066 nick.baker@wisc.edu		
Madison T 1 J 7 (7.20	Comfort Inn	Claudia Wiederholt - Event contact		
Tuesday, Jan. / at /:30 am	5025 County Hwy. V,	Dane Co. Extension Office		
	De Forest, W1 (Hung V exit West of $00/04$ )	S201 Fen Oak Drive, Km. 158 Madican, WI 52718		
	(IIwy v exit west of 90/94)	(608) 224-3704 https://fvi extension wisc edu/danecountyag/		
Fond du Lac	IIW Fond du Lac	loe Zimbric		
Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 12:00	Rm. 114 University Center	Dodge/Fond du Lac Co. Extension Office		
	400 University Drive	400 University Drive		
	2	Fond du Lac, WI 54935-2998		
		(920) 929-3171 jwzimbric@wisc.edu		
Kimberly	Liberty Hall	Kevin Jarek		
Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 7:30 am	800 Eisenhower Drive	Outagamie County		
	(Hwy. 441, College Avenue	3365 W Brewster St.		
	Exit, East 1 block)	Appleton, WI 54914		
		(920) 832-5121 kevin.jarek@wisc.edu		
Wadaaadaa Jaa 8 at 12:00	Marathon County UWEX	Heather Schlesser		
wednesday, Jan. 8 at 12:00	Office, Room 5	Maratnon County UW-Extension Office		
	212 River Drive	Wallsau WI 54403		
		(715) 261-1230 heather schlesser@wisc.edu		
Chippewa Falls	***** New Location *****	Jerry Clark		
Thursday, Jan. 9 at 7:30 am	Eagles' Club Banquet Hall	Chippewa County Extension Office		
	2588 Hwy 53	Room 13 Courthouse, 711 North Bridge St.		
	Chippewa Falls	Chippewa Falls, WI 54729-1876		
		(715) 726-7950 jerome.clark@wisc.edu		
Sparta	Jakes Northwoods	Bill Halfman		
Thursday, Jan. 9 at 12:00	Hwy 21 (NE side of town)	Monroe County - UW Extension		
	1132 Angelo Rd.	14345 County Highway B, Room I		
		Sparta, WI 54656-0309 $(608)$ 260 8722 william halfman Quias adu		
Derlington	***** Now Location *****	losh Kamps		
Friday Jan 10 at 12:00	Lafavette County Multi-	Lafavette County – LIW Extension Agriculture Center		
1 Hudy, Juli. 10 ut 12.00	Purpose Building	627 Washington Street		
	11974 Ames Road	Darlington, WI 53530-1396		
		(608) 776-4820 joshua.kamps@wisc.edu		
Wisconsin Agribusine	ess Midwest Forage A	Association Wisconsin Corn Growers Association		
Classic	Forage Produc	tion and Wisconsin Soybean Association		
January 14-16, 2020 Use Symp		sium CORN / SOY EXPO		
Alliant Energy Center, Madison February 17-19		P, 2020 February 6-7, 2020		
	Chula Vista, Wisco	onsin Dells Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells		



### Announcing the 2020 Wisconsin Agronomy Update Meetings University of Wisconsin – Madison Department of Agronomy

The Department of Agronomy will offer Crop Production and Management Meetings at eight locations during 2020. Joe Lauer and John Gaska will present the latest information on hybrid/variety performance, an analysis and discussion of last year's growing season, and updated recommendations for field crop production.

The registration fee includes a meal and materials. Please pre-register with the Host Agent. A "walk-in" (Late) fee will be charged to those who have not preregistered. Additional information packets will be available for \$21.00 each. Certified Crop Advisor CEU credits have been requested (3.0 hours in Crop Management). Below is a list of topics, meeting sites, dates and times. Please join us at meeting in your area.

#### **Packet Materials**

2019 Wisconsin Corn Hybrid Performance Trials: Grain - Silage - Specialty - Organic (A3653) 2019 Wisconsin Soybean Variety Performance Trials (A3654) 2019 Wisconsin Winter Wheat Performance Trials (A3868) 2019 Wisconsin Oat and Barley Variety Performance Tests (A3874) Extension publications Agronomy Advice articles Wisconsin Crop Improvement Association updates

#### **Discussion Topics**

#### Corn

- Post-mortem of the 2019 corn planting season
- Variability of the 2019 trials and what it means for selecting hybrids.
- Corn nutrient uptake during grain filling
- The corn stover project

#### **Soybeans and Small Grains**

- Variety trial overview with trait analysis
- Sulfur and micronutrient trial updates
- Yield gap planting date results
- Cover crop termination timing
- Intensive cereal management for wheat

#### Forages

• Milk2020: The next step in evaluating corn silage quality



Extension UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# The Fungus Among Us: Understanding the Cost of Fungal Diseases in Our Forages

Tuesday January 28th Two Locations:

9:00 AM -11:00 AM Matsche Center 363 Railroad St. Birnamwood, WI

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Green Valley Town Hall W1734 County Rd E Cecil, WI

No Fee RSVP by January 22nd to Shawano Co. Extension Office 715-526-6136 Agronomics of Growing "Clean" Forage in the Midwest Damon L. Smith, Ph.D. Field Crops Extension Pathologist Department of Plant Pathology UW-Madison

Mycotoxins: Invisible and Harmful

Kimberly Schmidt Agriculture Educator Extension Shawano County

## **Master Gardener Volunteer Level One Training**

### Being a Master Gardener is about becoming a VOLUNTEER with the University of Wisconsin-Extension to help educate the public about gardening and



**natural resources**. It's not about knowing everything about gardening. It's about learning to ask the right questions and knowing how to look up information from appropriate resources. Being a Master Gardener is about helping deliver meaningful community programs to improve the well-being of individuals and communities, to protect natural resources, and to help keep fresh fruits and vegetables on the table. It's about working in tandem with UW-Extension staff and other volunteers to make a difference in the places we live, learn, and work.

### Become a certified Master Gardener Volunteer:

- Make a difference in your community by using gardening, plants, and education.
- Keep learning! Volunteers engage in training and continuing education on gardening- and volunteer-related topics.
- Work on volunteer projects that are meaningful to you and meet your interests.
- Help represent Extension

### Training:

 Becoming a Master Gardener Volunteer begins with Level 1 Training. Level 1 training introduces you to a broad range of horticultural topics and familiarizes you with research-based information related to gardening. You'll learn how to answer gardening questions and develop skills such as motivating others to garden. Topics include but are not limited to growing fruits and vegetables, landscaping with woody plants, working in community gardens, horticultural therapy, and invasive and native plants.

### Volunteering:

• Master Gardener Volunteers complete 24 hours of volunteer service every year plus 10 hours of continuing education to be certified.

### **Getting Started:**

 If you are interested in learning more, contact Kimberly Schmidt - Extension Shawano County at 715-526-6136. Classes will be on Tuesday's, January 14<sup>th</sup> through April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Class time will be from 6 to 9 pm and held at the courthouse. Class fee will be \$150.

