MARCH 2021

Shawano County Ag Newsletter

University of Madison Division of Extension

Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
SHAWANO COUNTY

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In This Issue

Hello All!

The growing season is fast approaching! We hope you can join us for some of the programs mentioned in this newsletter before spring planting preparations get under way. One Extension program that I am involved in planning is the Badger Crop Connect and it is returning in March. The Badger Crop Connect is a webinar series during the growing season that brings timely crop updates to crop consultants and producers. I have included a flyer that has the first three topics of the season and how to register.

This newsletter also includes information on upcoming tile drainage school, manure applicator training, forage webinars and two different podcasts Extension produces. You will also find information about the Farm Ready Research webinars that cover topics in farm management, dairy and livestock.

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Hay Market Report Feb. 9, 2021

Hay Grade	*Bale type*	*Price ($/ton)*		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
Prime (> 151 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	$228.00	$150.00	$320.00
	Large Square	$223.00	$110.00	$325.00
	Large Round	$175.00	$90.00	$225.00
Grade 1 (125 to 150 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	$192.00	$160.00	$224.00
	Large Square	$163.00	$100.00	$275.00
	Large Round	$136.00	$100.00	$195.00
Grade 2 (103 to 124 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	$122.00	$122.00	$122.00
	Large Square	$135.00	$95.00	$205.00
	Large Round	$113.00	$70.00	$145.00
Grade 3 (87 to 102 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	$107.00	$75.00	$140.00
	Large Square	$102.00	$75.00	$150.00
	Large Round	$96.00	$55.00	$130.00

Dairy Situation and Outlook, January 25, 2021

Written by:
Bob Cropp, Professor Emeritus University of Wisconsin Cooperative ExtensionUniversity of Wisconsin-Madison

Milk production continues to run well above a year ago. December milk production was 3.1% higher than a year ago marking the second straight month above 3%. Milk cow numbers have been increasing since July with another 12,000 in December bringing the total increase to 100,000. December cow numbers were 1.1% higher than a year ago. Of the 24 selected states just 8 had fewer milk cows than a year ago. Milk per cow continues well above the normal trend being up 2.0%.

Each of the five top dairy states that produce over half of the milk production had relatively strong increases in December. The increases were: California 3.2%, Wisconsin 2.6%, Idaho 1.2%, Texas 7.5% and New York 2.2%. South Dakota led all states with an increase of 11.9% followed by Indiana 9.8%, Colorado 6.3%, Kansas 5.1%, Michigan 4.9%, Illinois and Minnesota 4.7%, Iowa 4.3% and New Mexico 3.7%. Of the 24 selected sates just 6 had lower production with Florida leading with 5.0% followed by Vermont with 3.1%.

With this relatively high milk production dairy stocks are building. Butter and cheese stocks both built from November 30th to December 31st. Compared to a year ago December 31st stocks of butter were 44.4% higher, American cheese stocks 6.8% higher, and total cheese stocks 5.7% higher.

Relatively high milk production and higher dairy stocks are putting downward pressure on the price of cheese and butter. In early January 40-pound cheddar cheese blocks were $1.6175 per pound and barrels $1.4825 per pound. Then it was announced that a 5th round of the Farms to Families Food Box Program would run from January through April of 2021. The cheese market responded with blocks reaching $1.9625 per pound by January 11th and barrels $1.6525 by January 7th. But realizing cheese purchases under the program probably can not hold prices at these levels prices fell with today blocks at $1.61 and barrels at $1.3925. Butter showed similar price moves starting in January at $1.29 per pound reaching $1.4550 by January 20th and has fallen to $1.36. Nonfat dry milk has shown strength starting January at $1.1475 per pound and reaching $1.2150 before falling to now at $1.1625 per pound. Dry whey continued to strengthen in January starting at $$0.4650 per pound to now at $$0.54 per pound. With some strengthening in dairy product prices the Class III price will be near $16.15 in January compared to $15.72 in December and the Class IV price near $13.80 compared to $13.36 in December.

The outlook for milk prices remains uncertain. With the growth in milk production improved domestic sales of milk and dairy products and favorable dairy exports will be needed to maintain and to increase milk prices. Until COVID-19 comes more under control dairy product sales will be dampened. Hopefully with the vaccine things will be different and sales will improve by the second half of the year with restaurants more fully opened and schools returned to in person learning. After a 14 month of year-over-year volume growth November exports were down slightly, 0.2%. Compared to a year ago, dry whey exports were 27% higher due to continued strong sales to China, but nonfat dry milk/skim milk powder exports were 8% lower, cheese 16% lower and butterfat 3% lower. Looking ahead exports going into next year could remain positive for milk prices especially for nonfat dry milk/skim milk powder, whey products and butterfat as prices remain competitive with world prices. Milk production for 2021 by the five largest dairy exporters (EU-28, New Zealand, U.S., Argentina and Australia is forecasted to be up about 1%. COVID-19 continues to restrict domestic demand in each of these exporters so most of increased milk production will be available for export. Also, it will take time for the world economies to recover from the recession caused by COVID-19.

Government purchases of dairy products will provide support to milk prices. There is $400 million under the Dairy Donation Program to pay for milk to be processed into dairy products and donated to nonprofit entities. There will be purchases of fluid milk, butter and cheese under Section 32 of the Act of August 24,1935. And from January through April there will be purchases under the Farms to Families Food Box Program. It is not certain that the new administration will continue this program beyond April.

So, with the current amount of milk being produced we could see the Class III price in the $16's first half of the year and the $17's the second half if COVID-19 is more under control and things turn more to normal. The Class IV price could be in the $14's and $15's first half of the year and the $16's the second half. But none of this certain and a lot could change this forecast. USDA in their last forecast was not quite this optimistic. USDA forecasted Class III to average $16.90 compared to $18.25 last year and Class IV to average $14.10 compared to $13.48 last year.

What is the biggest threat to a farm estate getting to the rightful heirs? It's probably not what you think

Written by:
Joy Kirkpatrick UW Madison Extension Farm Succession Specialist Heather Schlesser UW Madison Extension Marathon County Ag Educator Kaitlyn Davis UW Madison Extension La Crosse County Ag Educator and Stephanie Plaster UW Madison Extension Washington and Ozaukee Counties Ag Educator

A part of the Cultivating Your Farm Future program
https://farms.extension.wisc.edu/articles/what-is-the-biggest-threat-to-a-farm-estate-getting-to-the-rightful-heirs-its-probably-not-what-you-think/

A common misconception in farm estate and succession planning is that federal estate taxes are among the biggest threats to getting the farm assets to the rightful heirs. The Federal estate tax has been around since 1916 and is applied to property transferred at death. Legislation over the past 20 years has considerably eased the estate tax burden. The most recent legislation to address estate tax policy is the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017. The TCJA exemption amount is indexed for inflation, and in 2021 it allows an estate up to $11.7 million per individual ($23.4 million for married couples). However, the exemption amount outlined in the TCJA is temporary and will return to $5 million per individual on Jan. 1, 2026, if there are no legislative changes before that date. The 2026 exemption amount is still subject to an inflation index.

Under present law, the estate of a deceased individual owning assets above the exemption amount must file a Federal estate tax return. While many farm asset values may require filing a Federal estate tax return, it is essential to remember that debts against the assets will bring down the final estate value. Filing the Federal tax return does not guarantee that the estate will have to pay estate taxes.

To illustrate how few farms are affected by estate taxes, the USDA Economic Research Service estimated that in 2018 – 38,106 farm estates would be created. Of those farm estates, 0.6% (or 230 estates) would need to file a Federal estate tax return, and only 0.35% (or 133 estates) would have to pay an estate tax. Therefore, we propose that the biggest threat to a farm estate getting to the rightful heirs is the owner generation's lack of succession planning and not federal estate taxes.

Farm Assets as Three Buckets

Many farm families need their farm assets to fill three buckets: business assets, retirement assets, and inheritance assets. It is common for farmers to reinvest a majority of profits back into the farm business. They are building capacity, maintaining, or modernizing buildings or making the business attractive to the next generation. They may be expanding the size of the operation to capitalize on economies of scale. If farmers invest too heavily in the farm business and do not contribute enough to other non-farm retirement assets the farm business assets may need to supply retirement income. If a successor is already working in the business, the successor may assume there is a plan to make business assets accessible and affordable as they take over the farm. If there are off-farm heirs, the owners may also want the farm assets to serve as inheritance assets. In some cases, the successor generation needs to help service the owner generation's debt on the inheritance assets. If the farm assets are needed to fill the retirement and business buckets, is it financially feasible for the farm assets to also fill the inheritance bucket? Careful and early succession planning and honest communication is required to determine the farm's capacity to fill the three buckets.

Opt-in or Opt-out?

IRS notice does not indicate that the payroll tax deferral is mandatory. Also, there are no reported penalties that could apply if employers continue to withhold payroll taxes following normal procedures. The guidance provides no opt-in or opt-out instructions for either employers or employees. It appears that employees do not have a voice in the matter and that employers can choose whether or not to defer for eligible employees. If an employer chooses to opt-out of the deferral, it may be prudent to communicate with employees why this decision was made, such as disruption of processes, risk of errors from changing procedures, cost of modifying computer software for a temporary period, etc.

What is the biggest threat to a farm estate getting to the rightful heirs? cont.

Inheritance: Property transfer or emotional symbolism?

Inheritance is the transfer of private property, titles, privileges, rights, debts, and other obligations upon an individual's death. Property inheritance is most common within families. Traditionally, when we speak of inheritance of farm assets, we are referring to land, machinery, livestock and feed and crop inventories. Untitled property such as heirlooms, antiques, or memorabilia that may have monetary or sentimental value should also be considered an inheritance asset. The transfer of property can have a symbolic significance within a family's culture. It might symbolize trust, love, power, family rituals, or history.

Considering the symbolism associated with inherited assets, these decisions can be a daunting task for the owner generation. To spare themselves the emotional aspect of succession planning, many farm owners do not create a plan, and thereby their estate is subject to the state's succession plan. The state's plan is to divide the assets equally among the heirs. Some farm owners choose to create a succession plan that distributes farm assets equally to their heirs, identical to the state succession plan. Equal distribution of the farm assets can increase the likelihood the farm assets will not be available for the on-farm successor.

The farm business's growth is impeded when the successor must purchase the farm assets from the owner generation or their siblings, at or near full market value. The practice of purchasing the farm assets at full market value puts the business at risk of failing every time it is transitioned. Many farms do not generate the cash flow necessary for the successor to purchase the farm assets outright at full market value. Keep in mind that the farm operation has had to generate sufficient income and profits to initially acquire these assets at or near full fair market value. Should the farm or the successor generation have to pay to acquire them at full fair market value again, the farm essentially is being asked to pay for its assets twice, a staggering challenge for a farm operation.

Oklahoma State University has created a statistical model that compares various transition strategies and their probabilities of success. The results demonstrate that the most common farm succession strategy of dividing the assets equally among all heirs has the lowest success rate. Farms employing this strategy normally do not continue to the next generation. The owner generation often elects to divide the assets equally because they want to treat all of their children equally and not choose favorites. They hope their children will "do the right thing" and sort out the assets to fit their needs. The extent to which this strategy succeeds depends on the sibling's relationship and their definitions of fairness aligning. Research indicates that higher levels of conflict are predicted when sibling relationships have not been close in the past and siblings have different rules of fairness. Childhood rivalries may reignite when parents are no longer there to smooth over relationships. The impacts of grief can compound these flare-ups.

While it may be too late to improve distant sibling relationships, the owner generation may be able to discuss and implement fairness "rules" that can help their children better understand the parents' distribution of assets. Keep in mind as we talk about these theories, we are focusing on the business assets. There may be off-farm assets, such as a vacation home, recreational property, or off-farm investments that parents may want to treat differently than business assets. Two theories are used to understand the inheritance decision-making process:

- Distributive Justice is concerned with the distribution of property, and the fairness of that distribution
- Procedural Justice is concerned with the process used to distribute property and the perceived fairness of the distribution

The distributive justice approach to inheritance distribution requires the owner generation to choose how they want to distribute their inheritance. When deciding, the owner may consider three basic principles

- Equality principle: assets are divided equally among heirs regardless of their contributions
- Proportional equity principle: distributions of assets are in proportion to the heir's contribution in maintaining or growing the asset
- Needs-based principle: the heirs' needs are given primary consideration

In reality, farm families may make decisions based on all three principles. The owner generation may intend to use the proportional equity principle once an on-farm heir has been identified and has started contributing to the farm as an adult. However, if an adult child is in need, it could be difficult for a parent to refuse a request because that heir has not contributed to the farm. As the owner generation ages, they may be influenced to make the division equal in hopes of maintaining their relationship with their children. In doing so, they do not consider the damage this does to the business's financial position and future sibling relationships.

What is the biggest threat to a farm estate getting to the rightful heirs? cont.

Procedural Justice Theory has seven elements of procedural fairness for which rules are created. Heirs can then evaluate these procedural elements to assess the procedure's overall fairness. These procedural elements include:

1. Ground rules for determining potential rewards and behaviors to attain them
2. Defining the decision structure, such as order, timing, and methods of arriving at the final decision
3. Selection of agents, or who makes the allocation decisions and the persons involved
4. Safeguards to ensure against abuse of power for the following rules
5. Information gathering and obtaining procedures
6. Procedures for appealing unsatisfactory decisions
7. Change mechanisms to alter processes when outcomes are unfair

If Procedural Justice Theory is chosen, it is essential to follow the structure or carefully explain why the facts have changed to warrant adjusting the structure of inheritance.

Regardless of how an owner decides to split farm assets, the owner generation needs to be honest with themselves and their heirs regarding the farm's actual financial capacity to finance the family and business's goals. If the goals prioritize keeping the business in place for the next generation, then an equal distribution of farm assets is not feasible. The owner generation must take responsibility for communicating the goals and justify an unequal distribution. Communication among family members that leads to clear goals and expectations before the passing of the owner generation is vital for a smooth transition. The more the off-farm heir understands about the decision-making process, the easier it is for them to see the fairness of that decision. While the owner generation may feel that they do not need to explain their decisions, doing so can help with sibling harmony after they have passed. Regularly scheduled family meetings that allow for precise and honest communication about the farm business and tensions around estate planning create an environment where each family member can feel valued and heard. These family meetings help clarify each person's status in the farm business, whether they are on-farm or off-farm.

Reviewed by: **John Baker**, Staff Attorney for the Iowa Concern Hotline, Iowa State University and **Bridget Finke**, Attorney and Partner of Valley Crossing Law, Baldwin, Wisconsin

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Interseeding alfalfa into silage corn

CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS

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When trying new practices, it's always a good idea to start small!

Over the last decade, scientists at the USDA-Agricultural Research Service, the University of Wisconsin, Michigan State University and Penn State University have been developing reliable methods for establishing alfalfa in high yielding silage corn. Based on this work, the following represents our current recommendations for implementing this practice on farms. Establishment of alfalfa by interseeding into corn has:

BENEFITS

- Up to 2-fold greater 1st year alfalfa yield compared to conventional spring-seeded alfalfa and greater overall forage production from corn silage-alfalfa rotations
- Profitability of corn silage-alfalfa rotations increased by 7–15% under typical production conditions
- Soil and nutrient loss from cropland decreased by 37–87% due to greater soil cover provided by interseeded alfalfa

CHALLENGES

- Competition from interseeded alfalfa seedlings can reduce corn silage yield by 0–15%
- Wet soil conditions during corn silage harvest can damage alfalfa stands
- 1–3 extra passes are required for agrichemical application to ensure establishment of alfalfa

Field characteristics and soil fertility

Good establishment of both crops is essential

- The site must be suitable for good alfalfa production:
  - ✓ Soil pH of 6.6 or greater with good drainage
  - ✓ Smooth, firm seedbed, free of excessive residues
  - ✓ Not routinely wet or easily rutted during corn silage harvest
- To ensure good corn production:
  - ✓ Apply phosphorus, potassium, boron and sulfur (based on soil test results) to meet nutrient needs of both corn silage and seeding-year alfalfa
  - ✓ Apply a starter fertilizer (40-20-20 lb/acre of N, P_2O_5 and K_2O) at planting in a 2x2 placement
  - ✓ Total N rate from fertilizer and manure should be at the upper end of Extension recommendations for corn silage

Proper timing

Balancing competition between corn and alfalfa is important, consider soil temperature, soil moisture and planting timing

- If corn is planted early under cool conditions (minimum soil temperatures are below 50°F), delay interseeding until the corn V1 stage to lessen competition from alfalfa.
- Warmer conditions favor late-planted corn growth, so alfalfa should be interseeded within 3 days to allow sufficient growth before corn canopy closure.
- Corn & interseeded alfalfa can compete for moisture early in the growing season:
  - ✓ If the soil profile is extremely dry and rainfall is not expected after planting, either irrigate after interseeding or do not interseed
  - ✓ Interseeded alfalfa improves water infiltration into soil, so dry mid- or late season conditions usually have little impact on alfalfa establishment or corn silage yield

Corn hybrid, seeding rate and harvest considerations

Hybrid selection and plant populations are important

- Use an early to mid-season hybrid for an anticipated harvest by early to mid-September to allow interseeded alfalfa adequate time to prepare for winter.
- To provide a good balance between satisfactory alfalfa establishment and good corn silage yields, plant corn to provide a final population of 28,000–32,000 plants/acre.
- Harvest corn at the proper moisture for ensiling.
  - ✓ Avoid harvesting if fields are wet and easily rutted; follow Extension recommendations to minimize soil compaction

Alfalfa establishment

Varieties vary in their performance in interseeded systems

Previous studies in Wisconsin have shown good success with the following alfalfa varieties: 55H94, 55H96, 315LH, Magnagraze II, Magnum Salt, Hybriforce 3400, Hybriforce 3420, 54Q14, 55V50, FSG403LR, FSG329, Spredor 5, WL359RR.LH, RR Vamoose, 431RRLH, and FSG430RR.LH

- Alfalfa varieties vary considerably in performance in this system, make sure you plant a variety that is documented to be effective.
  - ✓ Alfalfa varieties with high resistance to Aphanomyces races common in your area should be used
  - ✓ Low lignin or 'high quality' alfalfa varieties have not performed well in this system
- A drill with press wheels should be used to plant 16 lb/acre of alfalfa on a live seed basis at a ¼–½ inch depth in the corn inter-row area.
  - ✓ Row spacing for alfalfa should not exceed 10 inches
  - ✓ Do not use seeders that use only corrugated rollers to incorporate surface broadcast seed into soil
  - ✓ If interseeded within 2 days of corn planting, alfalfa can also be drilled over or across corn rows
- The plant growth regulator Kudos® can help with alfalfa establishment in corn.
  - ✓ This product is registered for this use in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin where drop nozzles direct Kudos® to alfalfa foliage when it is 5–15 inches tall

Pest management

Good pest management is key to establishing alfalfa

Mention of a trademark or proprietary product does not constitute a guarantee or warranty of the product by the USDA and does not imply its approval to the exclusion of other products that may also be suitable.

- **PRE Emergence herbicide:** Apply acetochlor (Warrant®) after planting, just after alfalfa emergence.
- **POST Emergence herbicide:**
  - ✓ For Roundup® Ready systems, glyphosate is highly effective when weeds are 4–6 inches tall
  - ✓ For conventional alfalfa or corn, bromoxynil (Moxy 2E®) applied when broadleaf weeds are 1–2 inches tall and after alfalfa has 4 trifoliate leaves is recommended
- **Fungicide and Insecticide:** High incidence of foliar disease and potato leafhoppers can impact alfalfa survival. Applications of a fungicide and an insecticide has been shown improve survival when these pests are present.

Looking ahead! In future articles, we will discuss more results that optimize agrichemical application rates and timings for interseeded alfalfa. In ongoing work, we will identify corn hybrids that are best suited for interseeding and will further refine management practices to ensure interseeded alfalfa production systems will be reliable, high yielding and profitable for farmers.

Authors: John Grabber, US Dairy Forage Research Center and Will Osterholz, Soil Drainage Research, USDA-ARS; Daniel H. Smith, Nutrient and Pest Management Program and Mark Renz, Dept. of Agronomy, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Tile Drainage School set for March 8, 9, 11 and 16

Wetter weather patterns and fieldwork challenges have led many producers to consider purchasing their own tile plow or adding to their existing drainage system. Knowing how to properly design, lay out and install a system prevents costly mistakes. Extension in Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa are partnering to host a 4-day virtual Tile Drainage School, 8 am-noon on March 8, 9, 11 and 16 for producers and tile contractors.

In this introductory-level course, drainage experts from all three Universities will walk participants through assessing the field prior to installation, choosing the best lateral spacing, slope and outfall considerations, finding old tile systems and outlets/lift stations. Agency experts will discuss the steps to avoid regulatory pitfalls, and participants will be able to lay out a system and receive feedback on their approach.

The cost is $50 for the first person from a farm/tile installation business, and $25 for each additional person. To register, visit http://go.wisc.edu/39v013. For more information, contact Kevin Erb, UW Extension Conservation Professional Training Program at Kevin.Erb@wisc.edu or 920.391.4652

Wisconsin Manure Applicator dates for 2021

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension, is hosting four virtual Manure Applicator Training sessions (Level 1 / Manure 101). Designed for employees of both for-hire manure applicators and farmers applying their own manure, this 3-hour training covers the basics of manure spill response, setbacks and regulations, neighbor relations and equipment/manure gas safety. Participants can register for any one of the sessions online at http://go.wisc.edu/4lm34e. An internet-capable device and internet connection is required, and the cost is $10/person.

Dates/times of the training are:
March 4th, 9 am - Noon
March 11th, 6 pm - 9 pm
March 23rd, 9 am - Noon
March 29th, 12:30 - 3:30 pm

For more information, contact any of these Extension staff: Kevin.Erb@wisc.edu, jerome.clark@wisc.edu, richard.halopka@wisc.edu, amber.obrien@wisc.edu or george.koepp@wisc.edu

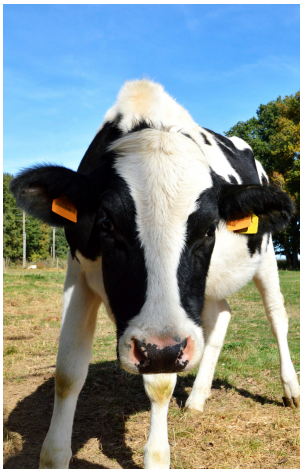
Extension Podcasts

Check out the newest episodes of podcasts created by Extension Agriculture Educators

AgriVision Podcast

The Farm Management AgriVision podcast is hosted by Katie Wantoch, Agriculture Agent with UW-Madison Division of Extension. She will be chatting with fellow UW Extension educators as they answer questions from farmers and share their knowledge and expertise on how farmers can improve their farm management skills.

Episode 1: Sharing Knowledge and Expertise



In this introduction to the AgriVision Podcast, host Katie Wantoch describes how the AgriVision podcast came about and shares a little about her background with UW Madison Division of Extension.

Episode 2: Selling Heifers

Host Katie Wantoch and Mark Hagedorn, former Extension Dairy Program Manager, discuss a farmer who wants to know if they should sell pregnant dairy cattle heifers now or wait to sell these animals until after the cow has had her calf.

Listen here: https://farms.extension.wisc.edu/programs/agrivision-podcast/

The Cutting Edge: A Podcast in Search of New Crops for Wisconsin

Join UW-Madison Division of Extension as they search for new crops for Wisconsin growers, processors, and consumers. The strength of Wisconsin's agricultural economy is its diversity…something that doesn't just happen by chance. It is a product of the relentless drive of researchers and farmers to innovate, explore, and experiment. Join us for a glimpse into the exciting new research and development bringing new crops and diversity to Wisconsin.

Episode #14: Saffron

Hosts Jerry Clark and Evan Henthorne interview Jon Pylypiv, a saffron grower at Bread Basket Farm in Hortonville, WI and Margaret Skinner and Arash Ghalehgolabbehbahani, researchers at the University of Vermont North American Center for Saffron Research and Development.

Episode #15: Lavender

Lady J (Kehaulani Jones) of Rowley Creek Lavender joins hosts George Koepp and Alana Lynn Voss to discuss growing and marketing lavender in Wisconsin.

Listen here: https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/grain/cutting-edge/

Farm Ready Research is Extension's agriculture winter webinar meeting series for farmers and ag professionals. Join the webinars to learn the most up-to-date information on topics from dairy and livestock production to farm management resources. Sessions begin December 2020 and run through April 2021. A list of sessions in March and April are below.

Badger Dairy Insights on the following Tuesdays from 1:00-2:30 pm :

- **Mar.2 : Optimizing the use of sexed semen in your dairy herd**
- **Mar. 9: Oh, CRASH! Safety Considerations for Agricultural implements on Roads**
- **Mar. 16: Improving Dairy farm efficiency through genetics**
- **Mar. 30: Robotic Farm Management; What's Different?**

Farm Management Fridays on the following dates from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm :

- **Mar. 5: Building a Positive Farm Business Culture, with employee safety & health**
- **Mar.19: Your farm startup: Where to begin and who can help?**
- **Apr. 9: Healthy Minds, Healthy Farms**
- **Apr. 23: FARMing for Health**

Wisconsin Beef Special Edition on the following Tuesdays from 7:00-8:30 pm:

- **Mar. 9: Pasture Weed Management**
- **Mar. 23: Direct Marketing Meat and Introduction to Meat Suite**

Small Ruminant Webinar on the following dates from 7:30-9:00 pm:

- **Mar. 17 : Direct Marketing: Building Your Brand for the Future**
- **Apr. 21: Designing Your Sheep and Goat Grazing System**

Register for all webinars here:
https://extension.wisc.edu/agriculture/farm-ready-research/

Focus on Forage

Optimizing forage production in Wisconsin

Focus on Forage is a FREE webinar series highlighting research-based information and farmer strategies to optimize forage yield, quality, and profitability in Wisconsin. Webinar speakers will include former World Forage Superbowl farmer winners, forage industry experts, Extension Educators, and Nutrient and Pest Management Outreach Specialists.

Pre-registration is required by 5 pm the day before the webinar.
A Zoom link will be emailed to registrants.
1 CCA CEU is available for each webinar.

Registration required
https://go.wisc.edu/334pqz

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Wednesdays
12:30 to 1:30 pm

NPM
Nutrient and Pest Management Program

February 24 *Alfalfa-Grass Mixtures for Dairy Forage: Using Meadow and Tall Fescues*
Dr. Jerry Cherney, Cornell University

March 3 *Managing Spring Pasture Green Up*
Gene Schriefer, Iowa County Agriculture Educator, UW-Division of Extension

Using SnapPlus for Pasture Nutrient Management
Dan Smith, UW Nutrient and Pest Management Program

Missed one of the past webinars within this Focus on Forage series and want to view the presentation materials? Just click here:
https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/grain/focus-on-forage-webinar-series-2/

Questions: Ashley Blackburn NPM Outreach Specialist aablackburn@wisc.edu

Badger Crop Connect

Returning for 2021

CCA CEUs available

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday
@12:30 thru September

Upcoming Webinars:

- March 10: Winter Wheat Management
  Shawn Conley, Extension Soybean and Small Grains Specialist & Carrie Laboski, Extension Soil Specialist
- March 24: Early Season Weed Control
  Rodrigo Werle, Extension Weed Scientist & Mark Renz, Extension Weed Scientist
- April 14: Field Conditions and Planter Set-up
  Francisco Arriaga, Extension Soil Specialist & Brian Luck, Extension Biological Systems Engineering Specialist

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Register for the spring 2021 sessions at:
https://go.wisc.edu/bccspring2021