

# Unit 1 Ag News

January 2022



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[go.illinois.edu/agnewsletter](http://go.illinois.edu/agnewsletter)



**Illinois Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

*Serving Jo Daviess, Stephenson and Winnebago Counties*

**Jo Daviess County** 204 N Vine St, Elizabeth IL 61028 • (815) 858-2273

**Stephenson County** 2998 W Pearl City Rd, Freeport IL 61032 • (815) 235-4125

**Winnebago County** 1040 N Second St, Rockford IL 61107 • (815) 986-4357



## Notes from the Director

Illinois Extension has always been committed to serving the agriculture community through training and education. Unit 1 has developed a strong list of programming, particularly in the winter months when we feel our participants are most available. This newsletter is one of many ways we share our events with you. Our website, [go.illinois.edu/jsw](http://go.illinois.edu/jsw), is updated as new learning opportunities become available. We also provide updated information through social media channels, including the unit Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/UnitOneExtension>.

Illinois Extension has recently welcomed two new members of the administrative staff on campus who will be involved with our work in ag and natural resources. Dr. Travis Burke is the assistant dean and program leader for agriculture and agribusiness, joining us from North Carolina State University Extension. He works with our commercial ag, horticulture, and local foods & small farms teams. Dr. Shibu Kar is the assistant dean and program leader for natural resources, environment and energy and joins us from University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He works with our environment and energy sustainability team as well as with the Energy Education Council and Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant.

Unit 1 staff hosted Dr Burke and Dr. Kar in December and together we visited several area producers and businesses, giving them an opportunity to understand the diversity of the robust ag community in our part of the state. We look forward to working with them in the future and hope to see them at some of the events listed in this newsletter.

Please take some time to review the learning opportunities listed in this newsletter. If you have questions about programs or other topics, please call one of our offices. We look forward to assisting you.

Margaret Larson, County Extension Director,  
Jo Daviess, Stephenson & Winnebago Counties

## Winter Program Calendar

### JANUARY

#### **1/14 Northwest Illinois Agronomy Summit**

9 a.m. Freeport (p. 2)

#### **1/11 Private Pesticide Applicator Test Only**

10 a.m. Freeport (p. 3)

#### **1/25 Private Pesticide Applicator Test Only**

10 a.m. Elizabeth (p. 3)

#### **1/27 & 28 Driftless Region Beef Conference**

Dubuque, IA (p. 4)

### FEBRUARY

#### **2/2 Illinois Hybrid Dairy Summit**

Opportunities Learned Managing Dairy Cows During COVID  
Freeport (p. 3)

#### **2/10 Private Pesticide Applicator Test Only**

10 a.m. Freeport (p. 3)

#### **2/15 Illinois Crop Management Conference**

Sycamore (p. 2)

#### **2/17 Certified Livestock Manager Training**

9 a.m. Freeport (p. 5)



[go.illinois.edu/jsw](http://go.illinois.edu/jsw)

# Northwest Illinois Agronomy Summit

The University of Illinois Extension is pleased to announce the fourth annual **Northwest Illinois Agronomy Summit** that will be held at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau Building, 210 W. Spring Street, Freeport, IL on Friday, Jan. 14, 2022, with the program running from 9 a.m. to Noon. The theme for this year's conference is *Updates in Crop Management* with University of Illinois and University of Wisconsin-Madison specialists discussing strategies for weed, pest, disease, and nutrient management.

Daniel Smith, Nutrient and Pest Management Specialist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison will discuss 'Nutrient Management Under High Prices' making the most of your input dollar by considering manure and cover crop credits, crop rotation, nitrogen management and more. 'Illinois Variety Testing Program' topic will be led by Allen Parrish, Director of Crop Science Research Farm, University of Illinois, covering corn, soybean, and hemp variety trials conducted by the University of Illinois. University of Illinois Extension Commercial Ag Educator Chelsea Harbach will be on hand to present 'Tode Talk: Updates on Soybean Cyst Nematode Management' discussing CSN problems in Illinois and how newly proposed methods of managing this yield stealer are performing in university-based research trials. University of Illinois Extension Commercial Ag Educator Phillip Alberti will round out the day with updates about ongoing university research trials and upcoming educational programs.

Registration is required to attend the Northwest Illinois Agronomy Summit and can be completed at [go.illinois.edu/jsw](https://go.illinois.edu/jsw) or by calling the U of I Extension at (815) 235-4125. Registration cost is \$5 per person.

# 2022 Illinois Crop Management Conference

Winter is a time for the agriculture community to pause and plan for the next growing season. Crop producers, consultants, and industry professionals can get the latest updates on Illinois crop production in person or online at the 2022 Crop Management Conference in January and February.

Make the most informed decisions you can for your farm by getting the latest research updates from University of Illinois crop science experts. Topics include insect management, soil health, herbicide resistance, managing high fertilizer prices, and more.

At least 12 continuing education units are available for Certified Crop Advisors.

Four in-person sessions are being offered around the state:

- **January 19** in Mt. Vernon
- **February 2** in Macomb
- **February 8** in Champaign
- **February 15** in Sycamore

Conferences are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost to attend is \$100 and lunch is included.

A new online conference with additional sessions is also available from February 1 through March 14. Participants who attend in person also have access to online sessions and the in-person conferences will be recorded and shared online. The online conference is \$50.

Registration is open at:  
[go.illinois.edu/CMC2022](https://go.illinois.edu/CMC2022).

If a reasonable accommodation is needed to participate, or for more information, contact Chelsea Harbach at [harbach2@illinois.edu](mailto:harbach2@illinois.edu). Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting access needs.



[go.illinois.edu/CMC2022](https://go.illinois.edu/CMC2022)

## Private Pesticide Applicator Test Only Sessions

Private Pesticide Applicators that need their license renewed can take the Private Applicator test on the following dates:

- **January 11, at 10 a.m.**  
Stephenson County Farm Bureau  
210 W. Spring Street  
Freeport, IL
- **January 25, at 10 a.m.**  
Elizabeth Community Center  
HWY 20 W  
Elizabeth, IL
- **February 10, at 10 a.m.**  
Stephenson County Farm Bureau  
210 W. Spring Street  
Freeport, IL

These are **TEST ONLY** sites and there is no charge, but registration is required by visiting the Illinois Department of Ag website:

**<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Pesticides/Pages/in-person-testing.aspx>**

Seating will be limited to allow for social distancing. Participants will be required to wear a face mask. Pre-registration is required to guarantee a seat.

Additional Training and testing sites as well as on-line training options can be found at:

**<https://go.illinois.edu/trainingandtesting>**

## Private Pesticide Applicator Self Study

Private applicators that need to renew their license can complete an online training via the internet. The training includes 8 modules that can be completed at your convenience. This training can be viewed at:

**[go.illinois.edu/privatepsep](https://go.illinois.edu/privatepsep)**

The license examination is offered on-line this year. Please visit the following website to register for a test:

**<https://go.illinois.edu/trainingandtesting>**

Manuals can be purchased online at:

**<https://extension.illinois.edu/study-materials>**

## Private Pesticide Applicator Manuals & Workbooks

The U of I Extension offices in Jo Daviess, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties have Private Applicator manuals and workbooks available for purchase. Manuals are \$12 and workbooks are \$3. The Stephenson County office is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and the Winnebago and Jo Daviess offices are open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. A limited number of commercial applicator books are available in each of the offices, so call ahead to check on availability.

## 2022 Hybrid Illinois Dairy Summit

*Opportunities Learned Managing  
Dairy Cows During COVID*

University of Illinois Extension and Illinois Milk Producers Association have partnered to bring you the latest in dairy management information.

The 2022 Dairy Summit is moving to a hybrid format, offering attendees the opportunity to attend in person and virtually. Join us as we discuss the challenges and opportunities for the Illinois dairy industry in 2022.

The 2022 Hybrid Illinois Dairy Summit will be held from **11a.m.-3p.m. on February 2** at Highland Community College, Student Conference Center, 2998 W. Pearl City Road, Freeport, IL. The 2022 theme is “Opportunities Learned in Managing Dairy Cows during COVID.”

Presenters include:

Phil Cardoso, U of I Extension Dairy Specialist  
Derek Nolan U of I Extension Dairy Specialist  
Mike Hutjens, U of I, Professor Emeritus

Due to COVID restrictions, in person seating is limited. All presentations will be recorded and offered online at a later date. The Proceedings Program will be provided digitally to all attendees, and a printed copy will be provided for in person attendees.

There is no fee to attend but registration is required and can be completed at:

**[www.illinoismilk.org/dairysummit2022/](https://www.illinoismilk.org/dairysummit2022/)**

# Driftless Region Beef Conference

Returns Jan. 27-28, 2022

*Focus is on efficient and economic forage and beef production*

With nearly 2.5 million cattle in four Midwest states, university extension services in Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin are teaming together to offer the Driftless Region Beef Conference.

The tenth annual event will be held Jan. 27-28, 2022, at the Grand River Convention Center in Dubuque. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach is a presenting partner.

The driftless region in these states contain rolling hills, streams and karst soil topography. Because soil and water conservation is best accomplished when much of this land is seeded for forage, and livestock then consumes those forages, the conference will focus on efficient and economic forage and beef production.

The conference begins on Jan. 27 at 1 p.m., with keynote speaker Ron Gill, professor and extension livestock specialist for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, and associate department head. In a meat fabrication demonstration, Iowa State University meat science specialist Terry Houser, associate professor and Smithfield Foods Chair in Meat Science Extension at Iowa State, will show and explain various value-added cuts.

The final two afternoon topics include alternative meats and consumer trends. An evening discussion on value-added opportunities will feature a producer panel. Friday morning's session features Matt Ludlow of Rush Creek Ranch in Wisconsin, who recently won the National Stocker Award, followed by eight breakout sessions for feedlot operations and cow-calf producers, and a market outlook.

Key speakers are Dan Loy, director of the Iowa Beef Center at Iowa State, and Denise Schwab, beef specialist with Iowa State Extension and Outreach; Bill Halfman and Mark Renz, University of Wisconsin; Bailey Harsh, University of Illinois; and Mary Drenowski and Elliott Dennis, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The early registration fee is \$85 per person and must be received prior to midnight, Jan. 14. The price increases to \$115 after that date. More information on topics, speakers and lodging is available at [www.aep.iastate.edu/beef/](http://www.aep.iastate.edu/beef/).

Online and mail registration forms are available on the conference website.

The Driftless Region Beef Conference is sponsored by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, University of Illinois Extension and University of Wisconsin Extension. For more information or to receive a brochure, contact Denise Schwab, beef specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach, at 319-472-4739.



## Hay Auctions

The Northwestern Illinois Forage and Grassland Council continue to hold their winter hay and straw auctions held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month continuing through April in Orangeville, IL.

COVID-19 guidelines need to be followed. Individuals attending need to have a mask and 6-foot social distancing must be followed. Like past years, a 7% commission will be charged to non-members of the NW IL Forage and Grassland Council, members will be charged 6% commission. There is no pre-consignment and no consignment fee. Quality tested hay, with accompanying printed analysis, is encouraged. Scale tickets are also encouraged so the hay can be sold by the ton. A skid loader will be available to reload bales onto the buyer's trailer for \$1.00 per bale.

Questions can be directed to Phil Barker, auctioneer, 815-821-2544 or Don Brown, Jr., President of the NW IL Forage and Grassland Council, 815-238-8372.



# Certified Livestock Manager Training

University of Illinois Extension and Illinois Department of Agriculture will offer 10 in-person Certified Livestock Manager Training workshops throughout the state, beginning January 18 in Effingham, and concluding February 23 at Illinois Pork Expo, Springfield. These workshops provide Illinois livestock producers the training they need to meet the state's Livestock Management Facilities Act (LMFA) requirements. The LMFA requires facilities designed for 300 or more animal units to have at least one employee certified in proper manure handling procedure. Facilities designed for 301 to 999 animal units must have at least one employee attend a workshop OR complete the online training. Facilities with more than 1,000 animal units must have a certified livestock manager attend a workshop and pass the IDOA exam, or complete the online training and pass the online test.

Registration is required. To register for a workshop, visit [go.illinois.edu/CLMT](https://go.illinois.edu/CLMT). Registration will be open one month prior to the workshop date, and class size is limited in some locations. All participants are required to wear a mask in order to comply with COVID-19 safety precautions.

## **2022 CLMT workshop dates & locations are:**

- January 18, Effingham County Extension Office, Effingham
- January 19, St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Nashville;
- January 20, Clinton County Extension Office, Breese
- February 1, IDOA Building auditorium, Illinois State Fairgrounds, Springfield

- February 2, U of I Extension Pike-Scott Farm Bureau Building, Pittsfield
- February 3, Warren-Henderson Farm Bureau Building, Monmouth
- February 15, Livingston County Extension Office, Pontiac
- February 16, DeKalb County Farm Bureau Building, Sycamore
- February 17, Stephenson County Farm Bureau Building, Freeport
- February 23, Bank of Springfield Center, Springfield.

Each workshop will begin at 9 a.m., except the February 23 session at the Illinois Pork Expo, which will start at noon. The training lasts 3 ½ hours, and the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDoA) will administer the exam after the training. The U of I Extension training fee is \$40, and IDOA's certification fee is \$30. The training manual used will be the "Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship Curriculum." It is available at [go.illinois.edu/manual](https://go.illinois.edu/manual).

The certification test has been updated. For the 2022 season, there will be 50 questions on both the paper-based and online tests. An individual must answer 70% of the questions correctly to pass. A Spanish version of the test will be available soon.

Cannot attend a workshop? Online training and testing are available year-round and follow the same format as the in-person workshops. Online training involves nine modules of 10- to 20-minute videos that can be viewed at an individual's own pace. Those who have more than 1,000 animal units may take the test online. Multiple attempts on the online test are allowed.



**[go.illinois.edu/CLMT](https://go.illinois.edu/CLMT)**

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**Illinois Extension**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

**University of Illinois ~ U.S. Department of Agriculture ~ Local Extension Councils Cooperating**

University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

If you need reasonable accommodations to participate in any of the programs in this newsletter, please contact the hosting office.

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College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences