

Unit 1 Ag News

December 2019This issue of The Unit 1 Ag News is also available online at: go.illinois.edu/agnewsletter

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Freeport (visit website for details)

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10 a.m. Freeport (p. 5)

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10 a.m. Elizabeth (p. 5)

2/20 Soil & Water Webinar, 9 a.m. Rockford,
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2/24 Stateline Fruit and Vegetable Conference,
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Rockford (visit website for details)

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9 a.m. Freeport, IL (Details TBA)

3/21 Spring Break Gardening, Elizabeth
(visit website for details)

Northwest Illinois Agronomy Summit

Well, here we go again. The 2019 growing season has been another challenging one for producers in Northern IL. A cold, wet spring prevented us from getting the crop in the ground, and extensive late-season precipitation and cool temperatures has delayed us in getting it out of the field and into the bin. “Prolonged periods of excessive moisture caused a wide-variety of problems for producers in Northern Illinois. Many acres were not able to get planted and in those that did, producers had to deal with unfit planting conditions and nutrient deficiencies among other issues. This was another in a string of challenging years in agriculture” Commercial Agriculture Educator Phillip Alberti said.

However, with problems come solutions and it is for that reason the University of Illinois Extension is pleased to announce the second annual **Northwest Illinois Agronomy Summit** that will be held at Highland Community College Conference Center in Freeport, IL on January 14th, 2020, with registration beginning at 8 a.m. and the program running from 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. The theme for this year’s conference is *Updates in Nutrient and Pest Management*, with University of Illinois and University of Wisconsin-Madison specialists discussing strategies for weed, pest, disease, and nutrient management.

Due to the dramatic increase in incidence and severity of water hemp across the state, there have been many questions about proper herbicide programs. To help raise awareness about this problem and how producers can combat it, Dr. Rodrigo Werle, Weed Scientist from the University of Wisconsin Madison will be presenting at this

program. In addition, Daniel Smith, Nutrient and Pest Management Specialist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison will discuss nutrient management in a challenging year and how these decisions impact future growing seasons.

While this event is most suited for our producers, there will be CEU's available for our Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs), including the categories of nutrient and pest management.



Those interested in viewing a complete agenda or attending the summit may register online at go.illinois.edu/AgSummit or by calling the University of Illinois Extension-Stephenson County at 815-235-4125.

The cost of the program is \$30, which includes a light breakfast and lunch. Pre-registrations are encouraged due to limited seating. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact the Extension Office, early requests are strongly encouraged to allow enough time for meeting your access needs. For additional questions, contact Phillip Alberti, Crop Science Educator with University of Illinois Extension in the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences at palberti@illinois.edu, 815-599-3644 or on Twitter (@NorthernILCrops).

US Crop Market Outlook

The University of Illinois Extension will be hosting a program titled: *U.S. Crop Market Outlook* where Todd Hubbs, Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois will discuss the fundamental drivers of supply and demand for corn, soybean, and wheat markets over the upcoming marketing year. A detailed discussion of topics provides a clearer picture of the impact on market fundamentals and prices. The implications for marketing year average prices as well as the likely pattern of prices over the next year will be discussed.

U. S. Crop Market Outlook will be held on Wednesday, February 26 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Highland Community College Student Conference Center, room 210, 2998 W. Pearl City Road, Freeport, Use parking lot A. To register, call the University of Illinois Extension at (815) 235-4125 or go on-line at go.illinois.edu/jsw.

2020 Illinois Dairy Summit

Dairy producers in Northwest Illinois will have an opportunity to learn the latest in dairy management information at the 10th Annual Illinois Dairy Summit in Freeport on Thursday, February 6, 2020. The 2020 Summit theme is Planning for the Future and will share the latest in dairy management information with dairy producers and dairy industry personnel. University of Illinois Extension Dairy Specialist Dr. Phil Cardoso will provide updates on the latest research and timely information for producers. Also presenting will be retired Extension Dairy Specialists Dr. Mike Hutjens and Dave Fischer.

The Illinois Dairy Summit will be held locally at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau, 210 W. Spring Street, Freeport, on **Thursday, February 6, 2020** and run from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. At the Illinois Dairy Summit, Dr. Phil Cardoso will discuss "What's New in Nutrition for Transition Cows?" A producer panel will address "Is Dairy Beef in Your Future?" and Dr. Mike Hutjens will present "Feeding Strategies with the 2019 Cropping Season." Other topics covered during the program include feeding updates, Dairy RP, and research updates.

This event is presented by the University of Illinois Extension and the Illinois Milk Producers Association. Pre-registration is available online at www.illinoismilk.org/2020-Summit. The fee to attend the Summit is \$15.00 per person and will be collected at the door. On-site registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. Call the U of I Extension for more information at 815-235-4125.

2020 Northwest Illinois Grazing Conference

The 2020 Northwest Illinois Grazing Conference is scheduled for Friday, March 6, in Elizabeth, IL. Plan to join the University of Illinois Extension for this annual conference from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Elizabeth Community Building, HWY 20 W., Elizabeth, IL. For more information regarding the 2020 Northwest Illinois Grazing Conference, visit our website at go.illinois.edu/jsw.

Timber Sales & Marketing

Join Illinois Extension Forestry Specialist Jay Hayek on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. for a Timber Sales and Marketing program. The program will be held at the Elizabeth Community Building, HWY 20 W. Elizabeth, IL 61028. Pre-registration is required by January 13 and the cost of the program will be \$10 per person. To register or for more information please call the Jo Daviess Co. Extension Office at 815-858-2273 or visit us online at go.illinois.edu/jsw. Illinois woodland owners have sold over \$250 million worth of timber over the last decade. Truth be told, that financial figure should be much, much higher.

If you would like to find out how to manage your timber to get the most out of it with the least tax liability, you will want to attend this Timber Sales and Marketing program.

Hayek will specifically discuss how to market your timber, how to properly conduct a timber sale, how to involve a professional forester, and how to guarantee you more income and more timber sales over your land ownership tenure! Timber is an investment and it must be treated as part of your financial portfolio. If you're a woodland owner, then you need to attend this workshop!

Hay Auctions

The Northwestern Illinois Forage and Grassland Council is again conducting hay and straw auctions at the Boco Mini-Mart on Rte. 26 in Orangeville. The Council has sponsored these auctions for over 25 years. The auctions are held on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays beginning at 11 a.m. and continue through April.

A 6% commission is charged to members of the NW IL Forage and Grassland Council, non-members are charged 7%. 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.

Questions can be directed to Cal Schaver, auctioneer, 608-897-4648, or Don Brown, Jr., president of the local forage council, 815-238-8372.

Soil & Water Webinar

Soil and water interactions will be the focus of a Soil and Water Management Webinar sponsored by University of Illinois Extension on February 20, 2020. The workshop will be held at multiple University of Illinois Extension offices throughout Illinois. Locally, the University of Illinois Extension in Jo Daviess, Stephenson and Winnebago Counties will be hosting the Soil and Water Webinar at EACH of their office locations. Presentations will be delivered via PowerPoint and web conferencing from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and lunch will be provided.

Those attending will hear about the latest information on extreme weather and potential soil impacts from Illinois State Climatologist Trent Ford, controlled CRP burns and soil quality from Western Illinois University biologist Dr. Sean Jenkins, and irrigation water use reporting from Illinois State Water Survey hydrologist Steve Wilson. Other presenters are Dr. Kapil Arora from Iowa State University who will discuss in field drainage management using control structures, and Extension Commercial Ag Educator Nathan Johanning to talk on field research on cover crops and soil quality. Certified Crop Advisors will receive 4.5 continuing education units in Soil and Water Management by attending this seminar.

Registration is \$45 per person, which includes lunch. Registration can be completed on-line at go.illinois.edu/jsw.



Tuesday, January 14, 2020

NORTHWEST ILLINOIS AGRONOMY SUMMIT

8:30 AM - 3:00PM

The theme for this year's conference is Updates in Nutrient and Pest Management in corn and soybeans.

For Certified Crop Advisors, 4 CEU's will be available.

Hosted by University of Illinois Extension at Highland Community College, Student Conference Center, 2998 W. Pearl City Road, Freeport, IL

\$30 Registration Fee
To Register Call Us At 815-235-4125
Or Visit Us Online At go.illinois.edu/AgSummit

Certified Livestock Manager Training

The 2020 Certified Livestock Manager Training workshops, held in 10 locations throughout the state, will begin January 8, 2020, in Effingham and conclude February 26, 2020, in Springfield. The University of Illinois Extension workshops provide Illinois livestock producers the manure management training they need to meet the requirements of the state's Livestock Management Facilities Act.

The Livestock Management Facilities Act requires facilities with 300 or more animal units to have at least one employee certified in proper manure handling procedures. For facilities with 300 to 999 animal units, at least one employee must attend a workshop or pass the Illinois Department of Agriculture's Certified Livestock Manager exam. Employees of facilities with 1,000 or more animal units must do both to achieve certification.

Please note that all workshops begin at 9 a.m. with the exception of the Feb 5th training at the Illinois Pork Expo which will start at 12:30 p.m. All trainings will take 3 1/2 hours with the IDOA exam administered after the training.

2020 Workshop dates and locations:

January 8th (starts at 9:00 am)

Effingham County Extension Office,
1209 North Wenthe Drive, Effingham, IL

January 9th (starts at 9:00 am)

University of Illinois Extension,
4618 Broadway, Mt Vernon, IL

January 10th (starts at 9:00 am)

Clinton County Extension Office,
1163 North 4th Street, Breese, IL

February 5th (starts at 12:30 pm)

Bank of Springfield Center,
1 Convention Center Plaza, Springfield, IL

February 6th (starts at 9:00 am)

UI Extension/Pike County Farm Bureau,
1301 E Washington, Pittsfield, IL

February 7th (starts at 9:00 am)

Warren-Henderson Farm Bureau,
1000 N Main St., Monmouth, IL

February 18th (starts at 9:00 am)

UI Extension/Bork Nurseries Building,
916 W. Seminary Avenue, Onarga, IL

February 19th (starts at 9:00 am)

DeKalb County Farm Bureau Bldg.,
1350 W. Prairie Drive, Sycamore, IL

February 20th (starts at 9:00 am)

Stephenson County Farm Bureau,
210 W. Spring St, Freeport, IL

February 26th (starts at 9:00 am)

Illinois Department of Ag Auditorium,
State Fairgrounds, Springfield, IL

Each workshop will offer a general curriculum designed to keep producers current on the latest industry practices. The curriculum covers the basics of nutrient management as well as new technologies, research, and trends, so producers who have completed the training and are renewing their certification will benefit.

Registrations are on a first-come, first-served basis. Producers are encouraged to pre-register at least two weeks prior to ensure a seat for the session that fits their schedule. To register, please visit go.illinois.edu/clmt. For questions with registration, please contact UI Extension at 815-858-2273. The registration fee is \$35. If more than one employee from the same farm signs up, each additional registration will cost \$25. Lunch will not be offered, but coffee and snacks will be provided.

The current training manual used for Certified Livestock Manager Training is the Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship Curriculum. This curriculum is available for free online at go.illinois.edu/manual. If you have a manual or CD is older than 2003, you should check the website for information for update options. The IDOA CLM Exam questions are taken directly from this manual. Some of this curriculum will be covered during the workshops. However, it is impossible to cover all of the exam material in one workshop, so acquiring and reviewing the manual in advance is highly recommended.

Please visit the Certified Livestock Managers Training webpage at go.illinois.edu/clmt for more information about registration, manuals, online training options, and other resources.

Producers and employees also have the option of taking five online quizzes. Passing them is the equivalent of having attended a workshop, but does not substitute for passing the state administered Certified Livestock Manager exam. Registration is open for the CLM Online Training Program at go.illinois.edu/clmt. There is no charge to take the online quizzes other than the cost of a manual.

Private Pesticide Applicator Test Only Sessions Offered

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

- **Tuesday, February 18, at 10 a.m.**
Highland Community College Student Conference Center (Room 201; parking lot A), Freeport, IL
- **Thursday, February 20, at 10 a.m.**
Elizabeth Community Center, Elizabeth, IL

These are **TEST ONLY** sites and there is no charge, but pre-registration is requested by calling University of Illinois Extension at:

Jo Daviess County — 815-858-2273
Stephenson County — 815-235-4125 or online at go.illinois.edu/jsw.

Private 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 \$3.25. 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 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A limited number of commercial applicator books are available in each of the offices, so call ahead to check on availability.

Manuals can also be purchased online at <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/psep/publications/publications.cfm>

Pesticide safety training and testing clinic schedules can be found on-line at :
www.pesticidesafety.illinois.edu

Private Pesticide Applicator Training & Testing Offered

In cooperation with the Illinois Department of Agriculture, University of Illinois Extension is offering Private Applicator training and testing clinics. Local clinics include:

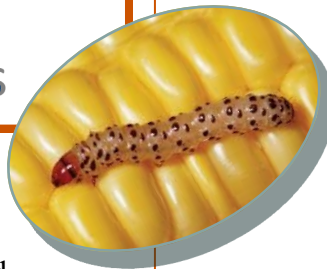
- **March 10**, at Giovanni's Convention Center, 610 N. Bell School Road , Rockford, IL

Check in time begins at 7:30 a.m. Training starts at 8 a.m. and concludes at 11:30 a.m. Testing starts that day at 11:45 a.m. and concludes at 2:00 p.m.

Pre-registration is required to guarantee a seat at the training and testing clinics. Registration can be completed on-line at:

www.pesticidesafety.illinois.edu or by calling University of Illinois at: 877-626-1650. There is a \$40 registration fee per person/per clinic.

Additional training and testing clinics are available throughout the state. A schedule of these clinics can be found online at www.pesticidesafety.illinois.edu.



On-Line Resources

Private Applicators Self Study via the Internet

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 <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/privatepsep/>. There is a \$15 fee to register for the on-line training. The license examination is not offered via the internet and must be completed in person at one of the testing sites.

Stephenson County Soil and Water District's 2020 Tree Sale is Underway

Stephenson County Soil and Water Conservation District annual tree sale is underway for 2020. Each year the District sells bare root tree, evergreen and shrub seedlings to increase efforts to provide energy conservation and/or habitat cover for wildlife. These plants are for conservation purposes only and shall not be used as ornamentals or for landscaping. **Deadline to order is Friday, March 13, 2020.** The deadline allows us to adjust pre-ordered quantities with the nurseries. We are hoping this eliminates the "extras" at the end of the sale.

Trees are sold in bundle sizes of 10, 25 and 100.

Evergreens available include Balsam Fir, Fraser Fir, White Pine, Colorado Blue Spruce, Norway Spruce, White Spruce and American Arborvitae.

Deciduous Trees include Kentucky Coffeetree, Black Walnut, Quaking Aspen, Shagbark Hickory, White Oak, Burr Oak, Northern Red Oak, Pin Oak, Swamp White Oak, and Red Maple.

Shrubs available include Allegheny Serviceberry, Redosier Dogwood, Highbush Cranberry, Nannyberry and American Plum.

Quantities are limited this year; and we will be unable to order additional stock; place your order early!

Additional items for sale include marking flags, Plantskydd Animal Repellent, tree mats, tree tubes and stakes along with bat houses, blue bird houses and wood duck houses.

Tree Order pick-up is scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2020, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at **Stephenson County Fairgrounds; Fairgrounds Road, Freeport IL.** A reminder postcard will be sent to confirm the pick-up date, time and location.

Order forms can be picked up at the District office or printed from the SWCD website www.stephensonswcd.org

Order and payment must be mailed or dropped off at the Stephenson SWCD office; 1620 S. Galena Avenue, Freeport IL.

Illinois Crop Management Conference

The Illinois Crop Management Conference will make its northern stop on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at the Kishwaukee College Conference Center located at 21193 Malta Road, Malta, IL. The agenda for the day is as follows:

7:00 AM Registration

8:00 ***It's tough out there: Supporting Farmers and Promoting Mental Health***

Dr. Josephine Rudolphi, University of Illinois

9:00 **Illinois Weather Review: A Look Back at 2019 & Expectations for 2020 and Beyond**

Dr. Trent Ford, University of Illinois

10:00 **How Should We Manage Today's Corn Hybrids?**

Dr. Emerson Nafziger, University of Illinois

11:00 **Updates in Field Crop Disease Management**

Dr. Nathan Kleczewski, University of Illinois

Noon **Lunch**

1:00 PM **The New Era of Herbicide Resistance... and You Thought the Last Era was Difficult**

Dr. Aaron Hager, University of Illinois

2:00 **What's the Real Deal with Cover Crops & Soybean Cyst Nematode?**

Dr. Chelsea Harbach, University of Illinois

3:00 **Insect Management in Corn and Soybean**

Dr. Nick Seiter, University of Illinois

4:00 **Hemp, What Have We Learned in 2019?**

Phillip Alberti, University of Illinois

For more information, or to register visit:
go.aces.illinois.edu/icmcMalta

Forest Management For Wildlife

Join the University of Illinois Extension for *Forest Management for Wildlife* on Thursday, January 16, from 9 a.m. to Noon at the Elizabeth Community Building, Hwy 20, Elizabeth, IL. For more details or to register for this workshop visit our website: go.illinois.edu/jsw.

2020 Driftless Region Beef Conference

With nearly 2.5 million cattle in four Midwest states, university extension services in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin are teaming together to offer the Driftless Region Beef Conference. The annual event will be held Jan. 30-31, 2020, at the Grand River Convention Center in Dubuque, Iowa.

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

The conference will begin at 1 p.m. Jan. 30 with a program concentrating on sustainable beef production at the national and local levels. Two nationally-known keynote speakers will kick off the conference. Sara Place, currently Director of Sustainability for Elanco, and formerly Senior Director, Sustainable Beef Production Research at the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, will discuss sustainable beef production and the role of cattle in protecting the environment. Following Place, Lacey Alexander from Cargill will discuss the role of animal welfare and handling in the beef industry and how Beef Quality Assurance fits that role. Alexander is the animal welfare lead for beef, Cargill Protein North America. An evening discussion on cattle health will feature a panel of practicing veterinarians. Friday morning will feature Place sharing how to talk with consumers about science and agriculture, and eight breakout sessions for feedlot operations and cow-calf producers followed by a market outlook.

Other speakers include Grant Dewell, Terry Engelken, Katy Lippolis, and Lee Schulz, Iowa State University; Wayne Coblenz, University of Wisconsin; Josh McCann, University of Illinois; Eldon Cole, and Allison Meyer, University of Missouri; Darrell Peel, Oklahoma State University, and Galen Erickson, University of Nebraska Lincoln.

Early registration fee is \$85 per person prior to midnight, Jan. 17. The price increases to \$115 after that date. More information available at www.aep.iastate.edu/beef/.

Illinois Extension Develops Industrial Hemp Resources

Illinois producers did you grow hemp in 2019? Are you interested in giving it a shot in 2020? With the end of the growing season here, there are many hemp growers who will be looking to find processors and end buyers for their product. As this is an emerging industry without a developed supply chain, there are a lot of holes to fill in. In response to this, University of Illinois Extension has created several production resources to help producers navigate this new industry which can be found here: go.illinois.edu/hemp.

First, Illinois Extension has created a “buyer/seller” database which will help connect hemp growers, processors, and end buyers in Illinois. Information will be filled out using the “Industrial Hemp Buyer/Seller Form” and will then be posted to a document labeled “Industrial Hemp Buyer/Seller List.” Please note that this information will be public and as such you are able to enter the amount of information you feel comfortable with sharing. This tool may take some time to develop but is meant to help our growers across the state as a supply chain is developed. Similar tools have been shown to be effective in other states in which hemp production has been legalized.

Secondly, the University of Illinois Extension has created a “Needs Based Assessment” for industrial hemp production in Illinois. As this is an emerging industry, we are looking for the best ways in which we can serve our stakeholders, you! In order to help us with our research and extension efforts, we ask that you take the time to fill out this quick needs-based assessment to help us develop research trials and educational programs. The brief needs assessment will only take several minutes and can be found here:

go.illinois.edu/HempNA

For additional questions, contact Phillip Alberti, Crop Science Educator with University of Illinois Extension in the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences at palberti@illinois.edu, 815-599-3644 or on Twitter (@NorthernILCrops).

University of Illinois Extension Hemp Resources:
go.illinois.edu/hemp

University of Illinois Extension
2998 West Pearl City Road
Freeport, Illinois 61032
(815) 235-4125 phone
(815) 232-9006 fax

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