

Farm Notes

January 2012

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MID-ATLANTIC SMALL FLOCK POULTRY EXPO

The University of Maryland Extension will host the Mid-Atlantic Small Flock Poultry Expo on Saturday, February 4, 2012 from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM at the University of Maryland Extension-Carroll County Office & Carroll County Agriculture Center, 700 Agriculture Center Drive, Westminster, Maryland, 21157.

The expo will feature educational seminars on poultry nutrition, disease prevention and control, chicken breeds, egg and meat production basics, housing, pasturing, feeding and watering systems, regulations and ordinances, organic production, litter and mortality composting, breeding and egg incubation, turkey production, brooding chicks, poultry in diversified livestock operations, exotics, egg grading and handling, marketing and economics, urban poultry, and protecting your flock. Vendors will be available with live poultry and poultry related items. A poultry processing demonstration will be conducted. Producers and Extension specialists will be available for technical questions about production practices. 4-H will conduct activities and competitions. Door prizes will be awarded. Lunch and snacks will be available for purchase.

Registration: Adults: \$10 pre-registration \$20 at the door
 Youth 10-18: \$5 pre-registration, \$10 at the door
 Children under 10: Free
 4-H Members or Volunteers admitted free
 (must pre-register and show 4-H membership card at the door)

For additional information about the Mid-Atlantic Small Flock Poultry Expo, call (410) 386-2760 or visit the web site at <http://carroll.umd.edu/ag/poultry.cfm>.

If you have a disability that requires special assistance for your participation in this program please contact the Carroll County Extension Office at (410) 386-2760, Fax (410) 876-0132, at least two weeks prior to the program.

2012 CENTRAL MARYLAND VEGETABLE GROWERS MEETING

Commercial Vegetable Growers are invited to the 2012 Central Maryland Vegetable Growers Meeting on Friday, January 27, 2012.

This meeting will serve as recertification for Maryland Private Pesticide Applicators, as well as, selected Pennsylvania applicator credits. In addition, growers who attend specified presentation sessions can renew or receive the required MDA Nutrient Applicators Voucher.

Just a few of the 12 topics offered:

- * Spotted Wing Drosophila - A New Economically Important Pest
- * Fungicides and Vegetable Disease Update
- * Strawberry Production Season Extension Using Low Tunnels



Time: 8:15 am — 3:15 pm

Location: Friendly Farm Restaurant on Foreston Road in Upperco, Maryland

Directions: From I-83 take Mt. Carmel Rd. west about 5 miles and turn right onto Foreston Rd.

Cost: \$15.00 per person (includes lunch) when you reserve your tickets by Wednesday, January 18, 2012. Any tickets purchased after that date or at the door will cost \$20.00.

RSVP: Baltimore County Extension Office at 410-771-1761.

Source: UME Baltimore County

SMALL COMMERCIAL FARM FOR LOCAL MARKETS WORKSHOP

The Baltimore County office of the University of MD Extension is partnering with Future Harvest Chesapeake Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture and the MD Agricultural Resource Council to offer a workshop series to learn about starting and operating a successful, intensive small farm.

This program is part of a larger initiative to train new farmers in a variety of farm production areas. The focus of this program series is on small-scale, fruit and vegetable production. Each of the sessions covers topics that are applicable to a variety of agricultural operations including small fruits, tree fruits and vegetables using conventional, sustainable and organic methods. The program is open to all and intended for people interested in starting or improving their small farm skills by learning from knowledgeable University faculty and owners of other farm operations in the area. Participants will learn marketing, production and business skills necessary to become successful market farmers.

The classes offered are:

January 31, **6:30 pm – 9:00 pm (Tuesday)-Marketing Essentials**

February 8, **6:30 pm - 8:45 pm-Cover Crops, Planning and Rotations**

February 15, **6:30 pm - 8:45 pm-Strategies for Pest Management**

February 22, **6:30 pm - 8:45 pm-Soil Fertility and Conservation on the Small Farm**

February 29, **6:30 pm - 8:45 pm- Methods and Management of Season Extension Using High Tunnel Production**

March 7, **6:30 pm - 8:45 pm-Quality Assurance, Post Harvest Handling and Organic Certification**

March 14, **6:30 pm - 8:45 pm-The Business Plan and Management for Your Small Farm**

March 21, **6:30 pm - 8:45 pm-Small Farm Business and Marketing Experiences**

March 28, **6:30 pm - 8:45 pm-Integrating Livestock into a Small Farm**

April 4, **6:30 pm - 8:45 pm-Issues Concerning Operating an Urban Small Farm**

This series of classes is scheduled in the evenings; as indicated on the schedule (Please note the first session is on a Tuesday and all other sessions are on Wednesdays). Registration is required and the cost for the program series is \$40 per person, the fee is for educator expenses and program materials. For registration or further information, please contact the University of Maryland Extension Baltimore County office at 410-771-1761. To register directly please send your name, address, telephone number and email address along with the program fee (\$40.00 per person; make check out to BCEAC and mail to the Baltimore County UM Extension office, located at 1114 Shawan Road, Suite 2, Cockeysville, MD 21030. Please register by January 25.

Source: UME Baltimore County

PASTURE RENOVATION AND MAINTENANCE EQUINE SHORT COURSE SERIES

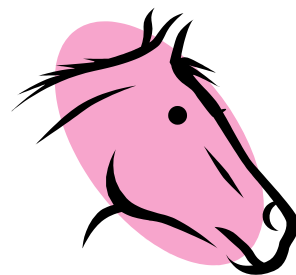
University of Maryland Extension Harford County will be offering this series of classes from 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. at the Harford County Extension Office, 2335 Rock Spring Road, Forest Hill MD.

Classes offered are:

March 1 - **Why switch to rotational grazing?**

March 8 - **Designing your rotational grazing system .**

March 15 - **Managing pastures for maximum productivity.**



Register by February 28 by calling (410) 638-3255 or e-mailing meagher@umd.edu

Registration for all 3 sessions is \$10 per person; includes all materials and refreshments at each class.

Source: UME Harford County

CARROLL COUNTY AGRONOMY WINTER MEETING

Once again the University of Maryland Extension Carroll County office is providing you a great opportunity to hear what the experts have to say at our field crops meeting at your Carroll County Extension office. This educational event is being held on Wednesday, **February 22, 2012, 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Morning refreshments and lunch will be provided.**

This meeting will give you the opportunity to get the information you are looking for to make decisions for the 2012 crop season.

Presenters include: Dr. Bob Kratochvil, Extension Specialist, Department of Plant Sciences & Landscape Architecture, University of Maryland. Answers to Frequently Asked Questions About Cover Crops; Dr. Cerruti RR Hooks, Extension Specialist, Department of Entomology, University of Maryland. Research Updates on the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug and other Agronomic Crop Pests; Dr. Lauren Kolb, Department of Entomology, University of Maryland. Integrated Approach to Weed Management; Dr. Arvydas P. Grybauskas, Extension Pathologist, Department of Plant Sciences & Landscape Architecture, University of Maryland. Crop Disease Update; Dr. Frank J. Coale, Professor Environmental Science and Technology, University of Maryland. Managing High P Soils; Dr. Wesley Musser, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Maryland. Understanding RMA; Mr. Bryan Harris, Maryland Department of Agriculture, Nutrient Management Regulation. Nutrient Management Update; Mr. Ed Crow, Maryland Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Regulation Section. Pesticide Update.

This is a great opportunity for you to get a complete crop production picture in one place at one time. **Preregistration is required by Wednesday, February 14, 2012 to allow us to provided adequate handout materials, refreshments, and lunch. Please call the Carroll County Extension office at 410-386-2760 to pre-register and to choose your sandwich for lunch. Don't wait as seating is limited and will go quickly!**

CARROLL COUNTY AGRONOMY WINTER MEETING SCHEDULE

10:00 Dr. Bob Kratochvil, Extension Specialist, Department of Plant Sciences & Landscape Architecture University of Maryland. Answers to Frequently Asked Questions About Cover Crops

10:30 Dr. Cerruti R. Hooks, Extension Specialist, Department of Entomology at the University of Maryland. Update on the Effects of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug on Agronomic Crops

11:00 Dr. Lauren Kolb, Department of Entomology at the University of Maryland. Integrated approach to weed management

11:30 Dr. Arvydas P. Grybauskas, Extension Pathologist, Department of Plant Sciences & Landscape Architecture University of Maryland. Crop Disease Update

12:00 Lunch

12:30 Dr. Frank J. Coale, Ph.D. Professor Environmental Science and Technology University of Maryland. Managing High P Soils

1:00 Dr. Wesley Musser Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics University of Maryland. Understanding RMA

1:30 Bryan Harris Maryland Department of Agriculture Nutrient Management Regulation Nutrient Management Update

2:00 Ed Crow Maryland Department of Agriculture Pesticide Regulation Section Pesticide Update

2:30 End

Source: UME

AGRICULTURAL ENTREPRENEURIAL BUSINESS PLANNING COURSE

What is this course?

This 3-evening course taught by University of Maryland Extension Faculty is for the agricultural entrepreneur who is thinking about starting an agricultural based venture, needing to expand a current business, or considering an opportunity to diversify. The course is designed to enhance entrepreneurial skills and assist in the development of a business plan. It will help those individuals who are searching for innovative ideas and enhanced marketing opportunities in the area of agriculture. Attendees will have networking opportunities and one-on-one consultation time with instructors. A business planning book will step you through the process of developing the business plan.

When is this course?

6:30 pm – 9:00 pm on February 8, 15, 22, 2012

Where is the course?

TBA – it will be in Carroll County

What is the cost?

\$25 for up to two people from the same family/business. Business partners or couples are encouraged to attend together.

How do I register?

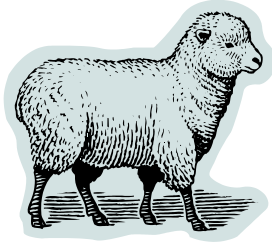
Registration deadline is February 1, 2012. Mail your name, address, and phone number with payment to: Carroll County Office, University of Maryland Extension, 700 Agriculture Center, Westminster, MD 21157. Make checks payable to Carroll County EAC.

For inquiries or more information call 410-386-2760.



Source: UME

2012 MARYLAND-DELAWARE SHEEP SHEARING SCHOOL



For Beginning Shearers, March 23 & 24, 2012, Ridgely Thompson Farm, 1942 Uniontown Road, Westminster, MD 21157, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. All registrations must be in advance accompanied by an \$80.00 per person fee. Checks should be made payable to: Carroll County Extension Advisory Council (**CCEAC**). Deadline: March 19, 2012, Mail registration to: David L. Greene, 2014 White Hall Road, White Hall, MD 21161-9712). Minimum Age is 16 years. You need to bring: Lunch including drinks (no facilities for lunch are close by), comfortable clothes and shoes, gloves, and a body with

the strength and willingness to learn to shear sheep. Shearing machines will be provided. You Will Learn: the New Zealand method of shearing sheep, how to adjust and care for hand-held shearing machines, how to set and adjust blades on these shearing machines, how to properly handle wool after shearing. (NOTE: We **do not** teach blade shearing). The school is open to anyone in Maryland, Delaware and surrounding states who want to learn to shear sheep. Each registrant will receive an ASI Shearing Notebook and instructional DVD. Instructors: David L. Greene, Principal Agent Emeritus, University of Maryland Extension-Carroll County (greelamb@gmail.com), Richard A. Barczewski, Animal Science Professor, Delaware State University, Dover, DE, Aaron Geiman, Agriculture Teacher at North Carroll High School.

For more information and a registration form, go to our web site at carroll.umd.edu.

Source: David L. Greene, Principal Agent Emeritus, University of Maryland Extension-Carroll County

BRANCHING OUT

A new issue of Branching Out is now available! Please see link below.

Branching Out, Maryland's Forest Stewardship Education newsletter, is published several times per year by University of Maryland Extension. Branching Out provides educational information, current news, and events and is intended to reach anyone interested in forest stewardship including landowners and natural resource professionals.

We encourage you to share this free newsletter with others and invite them to subscribe and review the newsletter archive by visiting the Branching Out Newsletter Page at the link below.

Feel free to contact me for further information or questions you may have.

Link to new issue:

www.naturalresources.umd.edu/Publications/BranchingOut/2011vol19no3.asp

Link to Branching Out Newsletter Page:

www.naturalresources.umd.edu/Newsletter.html

Source: Ms. Ellen Green, UME, WMREC

UNIVERSITY SEMINARS AT MARYLAND HORSE WORLD EXPO

Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium, MD

Friday, January 20, 2012

1:00 p.m.—Unwanted Horses: the Issues and the Solutions

2:00 p.m.—Secrets to Running a Successful Boarding Operation
3:00 p.m.—WEEDS: Unwanted Pasture Companions
4:00 p.m.—Hay Quality
5:00 p.m.—Using Fecal Egg Counts to Improve Worm Control
6:00 p.m.—Harnessing the Horse Power of the Web

Saturday, January 21, 2012

10:00 a.m.—It's in the Genes: How to Breed Your Next Champion
11:00 a.m.—Emergency Preparedness with Horses in Mind
12:00 p.m.—Equine Metabolic Syndrome: Diagnosis and Management
1:00 p.m.—Equine Biosecurity: Reducing the Risk of Infectious Disease
2:00 p.m.—The Curse of Foot Lameness: How to Make the Diagnosis
3:00 p.m.—The Curse of Foot Lameness: What Treatments are Available
4:00 p.m.—Treatments for Joints: Joint Supplements to Stem Cells
5:00 p.m.—Undergraduate Equine College Panel
6:00 p.m.—Getting Into Vet School

Sunday, January 22, 2012

10:00 a.m.—Top 10 Feeding Mistakes Horse Owners Make
11:00 a.m.—Goals and Dreams for 2012...Motivational Riding Techniques
12:00 p.m.—Feeding on Budget
1:00 p.m.—Understanding Class Criteria, Scoring, and Winning Strategies
2:00 p.m.—Feeding the Mare and Foal
3:00 p.m.—Pavlov's Horses? Equine Learning and Training Psychology
4:00 p.m.—Get Everything in Writing

Admittance to University Seminars is FREE with paid admission to the Expo. For more information about the Horse World Expo, visit www.horseworldexpo.com.

Source: UME

CERTIFIED POULTRY TECHNICIAN TRAINING

Frederick, MD – February 11, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **or** Salisbury, MD – February 18, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Certified Poultry Technicians play an important role in safeguarding Maryland's poultry industry. MDA is hosting two training sessions for those wishing to become certified.

Participants will learn about sample collection, handling and submission of samples, proper biosecurity practices, pertinent intrastate and interstate poultry regulations, and clinical signs of reportable poultry diseases. For more information or to obtain a registration form, contact the Maryland Department of Agriculture at 1-800-492-5590. You must register by January 15.

Source: MDA

CARROLL COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE UPDATE

2012 brings several changes to your Extension office:

Christine Lothen-Kline resigned her position as Area Extension Director (AED) back in October with December 31, 2011 being her final day of employment with UME. Presently a national search is underway to find a new AED for the UME Northern Cluster (see below).

UME has changed from County based programming to Cluster based programming. This change means that Carroll County is no longer in the UME Central Cluster but is now part of the UME Northern Cluster with Baltimore and Harford Counties and Baltimore City. This will facilitate cross county as well as cross cluster programming.

James Serfess has been hired to fill the 4-H Environmental Science Faculty Extension Assistant position and will begin work on January 30, 2012. Please stop by and welcome Jim to your Extension office when you have a chance.

The 4-H Human Sciences position is in the final stage of the hiring process. They should start work on February 6, 2012. Please stop by and welcome them to your Extension office when you have a chance.

Once again Bryan Butler's job duties have changed. Bryan's time is now allocated as 75% Tree Fruit educator and 25% Carroll County Ag Agent. This means that 75% of Bryan's time will be spent covering tree fruit in Garrett, Allegany, Washington, Frederick, Montgomery, Howard, Carroll, Baltimore, and Harford Counties and Baltimore City – UME Western, Central, and Northern Clusters. However, Carroll County remains his home county.

GRAIN MARKETING WEBINAR

This fast paced, fact based interactive webinar series is designed to keep you informed on the current state of the corn, soybean and wheat markets on the East Coast. In addition to the sharing of market news and trends, this educational series features a “marketing strategy lesson” twice each month.

An additional component of this activity that many farmers enjoy is the ability to participate in the *Commodity Challenge*. We have a specific *Challenge* set up for the webinar participants. The *Commodity Challenge* is a time tested, web based grain marketing “competition”. Farmers have the opportunity to practice marketing strategies without really risking anything put their pride.

Each participant receives:

- Access to the twice monthly interactive webinars
- Access to recorded and archived webinars for review at any time
- Use of the exclusive Commodity Challenge marketing game for this series
- Opportunity to compete for the Commodity Challenge awards
- John Hall's weekly grain market commentary delivered via email



For additional program details and registration information check <http://goo.gl/mqQS2> or contact John Berry, johnberry@psu.edu, 610.391.9840

POULTRY MORTALITY COMPOSTING SHORT COURSE AND DEMONSTRATION

Thursday January 26, 2012 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM, Poultry Research Center, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Princess Anne, MD. Sponsored by: Environmental Science and Technology Department, University of Maryland Extension

AGENDA

- 8:30 Registration - coffee available
- 9:00 What is composting
 - Description of the compost process, the variables that control the process, recipes to

successfully compost, and the items that must be controlled: time, oxygen, moisture, pH, C:N ratio.

- 9:45 Whole animal composting
Whole animal compost systems, set-up of a poultry mortality composter, bio-security, legal and environmental issues.
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 Channel composters and composting problems, mass mortality composting
Both in-house composting and outside composting of large numbers of dead birds.
Mass mortality experiences
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Compost use
- 1:30 Demonstration
- 2:45 Q&A, Wrap up
- 3:00 Adjourn



Cost: \$40 covers refreshments, lunch, and materials. Please register by Thursday, January 19, 2012. For questions, call (301) 405-1198 or email tscites@umd.edu

Maximum Registration is 30 people. Certificate of completion will be awarded. Name and contact information will be sent to MDA as desired. Registration Form - Poultry Mortality Compost Short Course
Instructors: Dr. Gary Felton, Dr. Jennifer Timmons

Source: Dr. Gary Felton, UME

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: MARYLAND FARMING BUSINESSES

Like most farming families, your land and business are your largest assets. You need a plan that ensures someone, a family or non-family member, is able to successfully take over the operations according to your wishes. Learn the answers to sensitive questions, and plan your family's future.

Instructors: Legal expert Kathy Rus, Esquire, is a Westminster attorney specializing in business issues and estate planning AND Dale Johnson, University of Maryland Extension Farm Management Specialist.

Wednesday, Jan. 25 & Feb. 1

Cost: \$10

(includes pizza, salad, and soda)

Daytime Session: 11am - 1:30pm

Course # SBA-617-B3

or

Evening Session: 5:30 - 8pm

Course # SBA-617-A3

To register contact: Continuing Education & Training, 410-386-8100 or [click here](#) Registration Deadline:

Monday, Jan. 16

Source: CCC/UMECC

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 20 **Penn State Webinar Series--Dealing Effectively With Difficult Team Members**-10:30 to 11:30 am, Sign up at www.surveymonkey.com/s/fridayfacilitatorforum or 888-373-7232

January 21 **Beekeeping 101 Session**-9 to Noon, Wye Research & Education Center, Queenstown, MD
Contact: 410-827-9039 or jhopkin2@umd.edu

- January 25, Feb. 1 **Planning For The Future: MD Farming Businesses**-11 to 1:30 pm or 5:30 to 8 pm, Carroll Community College, Washington Road Campus, To register visit www.carrollcc.edu/instantrenrollment or 410-386-8100
- January 26 **Poultry Mortality Composting Short Course & Demo**-9 to 3 pm, Poultry Research Center, UMES, Princess Anne, MD Contact: 301-405-1198
- January 27 **2012 Central MD Vegetable Growers Meeting**-8:15 to 3:15 pm, Friendly Farm Restaurant, Foreston Road, Upperco, MD Contact: Baltimore County Extension Office 410-771-1761
- February 4 **Mid-Atlantic Small Flock Poultry Expo**-Carroll County Extension Office & Ag Center, 700 Agriculture Center, Westminster, MD Contact: 410-386-2760
- February 8,15, 22 **Agricultural Entrepreneurial Business Planning Course**-6:30 to 9:00 pm, TBA – it will be in Carroll County Contact: 410-386-2760
- February 15 **2012 Bay Area Fruit School**-Wye Research & Education Center
- February 17 **Penn State Webinar Series-Confidentiality, Liability and Legal Tangles**-10:30 to 11:30 am, Sign up at www.surveymonkey.com/s/fridayfacilitatorforum or 888-373-7232
- February 22 **Pesticide Applicator Recertification Class (Winter Crops Meeting)**-10 to 2:30 pm, Carroll County Extension Office, 700 Ag Center, Westminster MD Contact: 410-386-2760
- February 22 **Nutrient Management Voucher Training (Winter Crops Meeting)**-10 to 2:30 pm, Carroll County Extension Office, 700 Ag Center, Westminster MD Contact: 410-386-2760
- February 25 **2012 Maryland Dairy Convention**- Frederick County Fairgrounds, Building #9, Frederick, MD
- February 28 **Estate Planning Web Conference**-9:30 to 12:30 pm, Contact: 410-386-2760
- March 1 **Pasture Renovation & Maintenance Equine Short Course Series**-7 to 9 pm, Harford County Extension Office, 2335 Rock Spring Road, Forest Hill, MD Contact: 410-638-3255 or meagher@umd.edu
- March 6 **Estate Planning Web Conference**-9:30 to 12:30 pm, Contact: 410-386-2760
- March 7 **Pesticide Applicator Optional Training**-10 to Noon, Carroll County Extension Office, 700 Ag Center, Westminster MD Contact: 410-386-2760
- March 8 **Pasture Renovation & Maintenance Equine Short Course Series**-7 to 9 pm, Harford County Extension Office, 2335 Rock Spring Road, Forest Hill, MD Contact: 410-638-3255 or meagher@umd.edu
- March 10 **Small Flock Poultry Workshop**-TBD
- March 13 **Estate Planning Web Conference**-9:30 to 12:30 pm, Contact: 410-386-2760
- March 14 **Pesticide Applicator Test**-10 to Noon, Carroll County Extension Office, 700 Ag Center, Westminster MD Contact: 410-386-2760

- March 15 **Pasture Renovation & Maintenance Equine Short Course Series**-7 to 9 pm, Harford County Extension Office, 2335 Rock Spring Road, Forest Hill, MD Contact: 410-638-3255 or meagher@umd.edu
- March 24 **Small Flock Poultry Workshop**-TBD
- March 31 **Small Flock Poultry Workshop**-TBD

Visit our web site at <http://carroll.umd.edu> For more event listings visit <http://www.agnr.umd.edu/AGNRCalendar/>

Yours for better farming from your
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If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please call: 410-386-2760 or 1-888-326-9645.

If you have a disability that requires special assistance for your participation in a program please contact the Carroll County Extension Office at 410-386-2760, Fax: 410-876-0132, two weeks prior to the program.

The information given herein is supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Maryland Extension is implied.