



NEWSLETTER



HOWARD COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Volume 26, Issue 3

May 2016

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Message to Members

By: *Howie Feaga, President Howard County Farm Bureau*

I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter; it seemed to be really early this year. That was OK though, because it always triggers the start of spring and if you are like me you love spring. The start of summer is just around the corner and that is always a busy time for all of us. Be sure to take your time to be safe, you can not undo an accident; take your time and check everything. The little things that you don't do are the ones that will come back and get you latter.

By the time you read this, we will have had our Legislative Dinner. It is always good to see each of you and it is also nice to visit with our legislative leaders from across the county and the state. There are lots of questions about the different bills that have gone through the county and through Annapolis. It was a whirlwind of activity, followed by a sigh of relieve when it comes to an end. To see what passed and what didn't you can check out the Hotline of April 14, 2016, all the run down is in there. I would like to thank all our representatives at all levels, for everything they do for us each year. We need them and we rely on them to hear us and pass our concerns on to the legislative bodies so that we, as outnumbered as we are, can get a fair

deal when the voting is over. Speaking of voting, did you vote in Maryland's primary? I know it has not been easy for you to choose who will be right for the job. Every candidate, from the School Board to the Presidential candidates, seems to like the use of battering and insulting to get us to go their way. So all I can say is good luck, it should be very interesting this fall.

I hope everyone has a great summer. Try to stay safe and enjoy your family and friends. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Howard County Fair from August 6th to the 13th. If you can, try and watch the Jr. Showmanship contest, it's great to see the young kids working with their animals, but even better, are the older kids that help the younger ones. It's a heartwarming event. I am very thankful to Rhonda Winkler and all those that help out, to make it such a great success. So take care everyone and until the next Newsletter remember to "Keep your plow in the ground, we're all pulling for you"

--Howie Feaga, President Ho. Co. Farm Bureau

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Howard County Farm Bureau Contests - Are YOU Interested this Year in Participating?

Miss Howard County Farm Bureau
Little Miss Howard County Farm Bureau
Howard County Future Farmer

~Contests are sponsored by the Howard County Farm Bureau Women and will be held on Sunday, August 7, 2016 during the Howard County Fair.

- Contests will be held on Sunday, August 7th at the Howard County Fair.
- Contestants will ride in the Opening Day Parade.
- Cash awards to all contestants
- Gifts and scholarships awarded to winners.
- Family must be a member of, or join, the Howard County Farm Bureau.
- Fun and rewarding for all participants.
- Must carry agricultural-related 4-H project.
- Must be age-eligible to participate:
Little Miss & Future Farmer Contests: 8 to 11 years of age as of August 1st.
Miss Contest: 16 to 19 years of age as of State Fair Contest.
- Miss Howard County Farm Bureau stage portion of contest is held 3:00 pm in the Show Pavilion.
- Future Howard County Farmer and Little Miss Howard County Farm Bureau presented during intermission of Miss Contest in Show Pavilion. Age-eligible contestants who belong to the Howard County 4-H Program will receive detailed information regarding these contests in early May.

Are YOU interested? Do you know someone who might be interested?

- Please call or email either:
Danielle Bauer at (443) 812-4526
danielle@tpgins.net
OR
Tess Gavan at (443) 538-8576
tess.gavan@cbmove.com
- Dawn Watkins, (301) 253-2921 for Miss Contest.

- Mary Jeanne Coles at (410) 775-7431 or cmjcoles4@aol.com for Future Farmer or Little Miss Contest.

Miss Maryland Agriculture Program Sponsorship Letter 2016

March 14, 2016

To: Friends of the Miss Maryland Agriculture Program

From: Jennifer Cross, Women's Leadership Committee Chair & Miss Maryland Agriculture Program Committee Representative

We are currently seeking sponsors for the 2016 Miss Maryland Agriculture Program & Contest. Our contest works diligently to provide 23 contestants (one from each county in the state) the opportunity to promote agriculture through leadership. The Miss Maryland Agriculture Program surfaces young ladies who have a background in agriculture and works with them to promote our agricultural industry. August 8th through the 11th we will host an Orientation and The Miss Maryland Agriculture Contest will be held August 25th and 26th in conjunction with the Maryland State Fair.

We are seeking sponsorships ranging from \$50 to \$1000, or whatever level will work for you or your farm/business. We will use the funds to help support this year's program. Please send your check before August 10, 2016. By sponsoring the program and contest we will list you or a farm/business as a sponsor in the official program and our Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee Facebook page.

The Women's Leadership Committee believes it is essential that we work with the community to assist in the development and personal growth of each participant by providing educational and

memorable learning opportunities. Therefore, it is vital to educate each participant with accurate and timely information about our diverse Maryland agricultural community. By forming a partnership with various agricultural resources we will be able to provide positive learning experiences that will assist each participant in developing into the best agricultural spokesperson that she can become.

Please consider providing your financial assistance to continue this proud Farm Bureau tradition. You may send your contribution to:

Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.,
Attention: WLC Staffer Jennifer Bennett
Miss Maryland Agriculture Program,
3358 Davidsonville Road Davidsonville, MD,
21035

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at jcross4380@yahoo.com or (301) 579-6552.

Thanks for your support!



"The Woods in your Backyard" **Workshop**

Do you own 1-10 acres of land? Are you interested in learning how to manage or expand your woodlands?

The Howard County Forestry Board in conjunction with University of Maryland Extension is offering a short workshop to landowners who wish to learn more about forest management.

"The Woods in Your Backyard" workshop is available to encourage small acreage landowners to

understand their role in conserving forest values and to lead them to more active involvement with their natural resources.

The Goal of the program is to help landowners develop a land use management plan focusing on how to manage and expand their woodlands. Landowners will learn how to improve the ecological function of their property. Even small forested areas play a critical role in providing benefits for water quality, wildlife, recreation, quality of life, and economic opportunity.

Information about sources for trees at affordable prices will also be provided. Classes are taught by foresters, arborists, landscape designers and Master Naturalists.

Workshop Information

Date: September 29 and October 6, 2016

Time: 6:30 - 9 pm

Location: Maryland Extension Office,
3300 North Ridge Road Suite 240
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Cost: \$25

See the attached Poster

Howard Soil Conservation **District Annual Cooperator** **Dinner**

By: *Kristal M. McCormick,*
Education Outreach / Conservation Planner
Howard Soil Conservation District

The Howard Soil Conservation District will honor their Cooperator of the Year on Thursday, July 28th at their annual Cooperator Dinner. All are invited to attend.

Save the Date!

For more information please contact the District, (410)313-0680 or check out their website: www.howardscd.org

Agronomic Crop Insect Management

By: *Joanne Whalen*
Extension IPM Specialist
jwhalen@udel.edu

Alfalfa

Continue to scout fields for both alfalfa weevil and pea aphids. Both can be found in fields throughout the state. Fields should be scouted for these two insect pests until the first cutting. Examine 5 - 10 stems for damage and weevil larvae until damage or larvae are found on the plants. Once larvae are found, a decision to treat should be based on collecting a minimum of 30 stems throughout a field and checking for the number of larvae per stem. The following thresholds, based on the height of the alfalfa, should be used as a guideline when making a treatment decision for alfalfa weevil: (a) up to 11 inches tall – 0.7 per stem; (b) 12 inches tall – 1.0 per stem; (c) 13 to 15 inches tall – 1.5 per stem; (d) 16 inches tall – 2.0 per stem and (e) 17 to 18 inches tall – 2.5 per stem. The following thresholds should be used as a guideline when making a treatment decision for aphids : (a) alfalfa less than 10 inches tall treat if you find 40-50 aphids per stem, and (b) alfalfa 10 inches or taller in height treat if you find 75- 100 per stem.

Small Grains

Low levels of cereal leaf beetle adult (eggs and small larvae), armyworms and grass sawfly larvae have been found in an occasional field in Kent and Sussex counties. Cereal leaf beetle populations are often unevenly distributed within a field so it is important to carefully sample so that you do not over or under estimate a potential problem. Eggs and larvae are also found on leaves near the ground so careful examination of the entire plant is critical. The treatment threshold is 25 eggs and/or small larvae per 100 tillers/stems, with more larvae than eggs present to justify a spray. More information on sampling and treatment thresholds for grass sawfly and true armyworm can be found at the following link: <http://extension.udel.edu/factsheets/grass-sawfly-and-truearmyworm-management-in-small-grains/>

A Second Horse Tests Positive for Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1)

Source: MDA April 21, 2016

A horse that was at the same facility as a Howard County horse that was recently diagnosed with the non-neuropathogenic strain of Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1) has tested positive for the same strain. This second horse was tested as a result of a fever and EHV-1 diagnosis was confirmed by the Frederick Animal Health Laboratory. This second horse was euthanized for unrelated reasons. All horses that were exposed to the two positive horses are currently free of symptoms and are being monitored daily. All appear healthy. The farm will remain under quarantine to ensure the virus is contained. As of today, the Maryland Department of Agriculture believes the virus is contained to this farm and is not aware of any other EHV-1 cases in the state.

The department's Animal Health Program continues to monitor the situation closely. Owners should contact their private veterinarians to arrange for EHV testing if a horse exhibits significant temperature elevations or neurologic signs. Veterinarians are required to report equine neurologic syndrome to the Maryland Department of Agriculture.



Announcements

❖ Miss Howard County Farm Bureau Contest Meet & Greet

Miss Howard County Farm Bureau contest Meet and Greet for ladies interested in participating.

When: June 28th at 7:00 p.m.

Where: Howard County Fairgrounds (building TBD).

Meet and greet date for boys/girls interested in participating in the Future Farmer and Little Miss contest to follow

Contact: **Danielle Bauer** at (443) 812-4526 or danielle@tpgins.net

❖ MD Farm Bureau Young Farmers

- The State Young Farmers Committee will hold an Advocacy Workshop **June 4th** at the **MD Farm Bureau Office** in Davidsonville from **2-5pm**.
- Sponsorships: The MD Farm Bureau Young Farmers will be sponsoring the MD 4-H and FFA Organizations at \$5,000 a piece. These organizations directly feed into the Young Farmers committee and the sponsorship is an opportunity for the MDFBYF to network with and share leadership skills with these youth groups.

❖ Nutrient Management Training

The registration for the summer Fundamentals of Nutrient Management Course June 2nd-3rd is now available. Anyone planning to take the Maryland Nutrient Management Certification Examination, consultants and farmers interested in refreshing their nutrient management knowledge, and natural resource personnel should attend. The Certification Examination will be held on Friday, August 5, 2016.

The course is \$125. If you choose to only take the exam, the cost is \$50.

http://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/Pages/nutrient_management_training_program.aspx

❖ 2016 Mid-Atlantic Field Crop Weed Management Guide

This new guide provides strategies and herbicide tables for managing weeds in corn, sorghum, soybeans, small grains, legumes, grass forages, and pastures. The problem weeds burcucumber, henbit, horsenettle, horseweed/marestail, Palmer amaranth and waterhemp, common pokeweed, common and giant ragweed, and annual/Italian ryegrasses are discussed in detail.

This regional guide was produced by Penn State Extension in cooperation with University of Delaware, University of Maryland, Virginia Tech, and West Virginia University.

<http://news.psu.edu/story/389166/2016/01/26/2016-mid-atlantic-field-crop-weed-management-guide-available>

Calendar of Events

2016

MAY 8 GOAT, SHEEP & WOOL SKILLATHON

Place Howard County Fairgrounds
Fairground Road, West Friendship, MD

JUN 2 & 3 NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT TRAINING – “THE FUNDAMENTALS OF NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT”

Place Maryland Department of Agriculture
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401

Time 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Register by May 25th:

http://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/Pages/nutrient_management_training_program.aspx

JUN 4 STATE YOUNG FARMERS ADVOCACY WORKSHOP

Place MFB Office
3358 Davidsonville Road
Davidsonville, MD 21035

Time 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

AUG 6-13 71ST HOWARD COUNTY FAIR

Place Howard County Fairgrounds
Fairground Road, West Friendship, MD
<http://howardcountyfair.org/>

AUG 7 HOWARD COUNTY FARM BUREAU CONTESTS

Place Howard County Fairgrounds
Fairground Road, West Friendship, MD

Time 3 p.m.

AUG 26 MISS MARYLAND AGRICULTURE CONTEST

Place Maryland State Fairgrounds

SEP 16 MARYLAND YOUNG FARMERS FUNDRAISER - O'S DAY

Place Camden Yards, Baltimore MD

SEP 29 “THE WOODS IN YOUR BACKYARD” WORKSHOP

Place Maryland Extension Office
3300 North Ridge Road, Suite 240
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Time 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Cost: \$25

OCT 6 “THE WOODS IN YOUR BACKYARD” WORKSHOP

Place Maryland Extension Office
3300 North Ridge Road, Suite 240
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Time 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Cost: \$25

[NOTE]: Some programs require pre-registration and/or a fee. For programs sponsored by University of Maryland Extension, if you need special assistance to participate, please contact the

The Woods in Your Backyard

Learning to Create and Enhance Natural Areas Around Your Home

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Are you interested in learning how to manage or expand
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Ellicott City, MD 21043

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This course was developed by University of Maryland Extension in cooperation with Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Virginia
Cooperative Extension

University of Maryland Extension

Virginia Tech

Cooperative Extension



Penn State



College of Agricultural Sciences
Cooperative Extension