



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# Chippewa Valley Agricultural Extension Report

**Dunn County - 715-232-1636**

Katie Wantoch - Agriculture Agent  
<http://dunn.extension.wisc.edu>

**Eau Claire County - 715-839-4712**

Lyssa Seefeldt—Agriculture Agent  
<http://eauclaire.extension.wisc.edu>

**Chippewa County - 715-726-7950**

Jerry Clark - Agriculture Agent  
<http://chippewa.extension.wisc.edu>

Spring 2020

Volume 10, Issue 1

## Inside this issue:

Art of Negotiating for your Farm Business	2
Waterhemp: A 'friendly' native evolved into the Cornbelt's worst weed problem & Waterhemp Identification	3-4
Managing alfalfa stands	5
Successful calving	6
Calendar	7
Inserts:	
• Farm Succession Workshop	
• Farmer's Night Out	

## Did you know?

- Wisconsin is #1 in the nation for snap beans, producing 656 million pounds a year.
- Wisconsin is home to 53,000 bee colonies that produce 2.97 million pounds of honey.
- Wisconsin produces 5 million bushels of oats a year.
- Agriculture contributes 413,500 jobs to Wisconsin's economy or 11.9% of total employment.
- Every job in agriculture supports another 1.46 jobs elsewhere in Wisconsin.

Source: 2019 Wisconsin Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom

## Farmer's Night Out

On behalf of Extension, Dunn County Farm Bureau, and sponsors, we invite area farmers to a FREE night out! Join us on Thursday, March 19th from 6-10pm at Stout Ale House/Off Broadway Banquet Center. At 7pm we will have Hypnotist, Dr. Al Snyder! There will be appetizers, door prizes, frozen custard, and a cash bar.

## Cultivating Your Farm's Future Workshop

Extension will host a workshop in March 2020, providing information and resources on farm succession and estate planning. The workshop will run from 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m on March 18th at the Dunn County Community Services Building, Lower Level Room 54. Participants will have an opportunity to meet individually with speakers to ask specific questions about their situations.

As the average age of U.S. farmers continues to inch upward, the need to plan for the transition of land, livestock, machinery, and management decisions has become a top priority in the U.S. agriculture industry. While the ongoing economic downturn in almost all sectors of agriculture may have dampened the short term outlook for some farms, long term business and estate planning decisions should still be on farm businesses to-do lists.

Having intentional conversations around farm succession and developing future plans for the farm provides a better chance of transition success. Even if the owner generation is planning to be a part of the management for 10+ years from now, starting early can help the process go more smoothly. It provides the succession generation time to develop their management skills and provides the farm time to build or increase its financial stability to include another generation.

Registration is \$20 per person and includes refreshments, speakers and workshop materials. Lunch is sponsored by Bremer Bank.

For more information or to register, contact Katie Wantoch, Extension Dunn County agriculture educator at [Katie.Wantoch@wisc.edu](mailto:Katie.Wantoch@wisc.edu) or 715-232-1636. Online registration is available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/95424580489>.

For more information on other workshops and the follow up events go to <https://farms.extension.wisc.edu/programs/cultivating/>.

## Farm Couples Weekend Workshop

Challenging economic conditions in agriculture can take a toll on farm families and rural communities. Are you a farm couple interested in learning about stress management techniques, improving farm family communications, and decision-making and goal-setting? If so, consider attending a Farm Couples Weekend Workshop on March 21-22, at The Lismore Hotel in Eau Claire.

There is no cost to attend. Refreshments, meals, lodging, instruction and materials will be provided and financial assistance for childcare, farm labor or mileage may be available. For more information about financial assistance, contact the Farm Center at 800-942-2474.

Pre-registration and a \$50/couple deposit is required, with the deposit refunded on the second day of the weekend. Interested couples can reserve a spot by purchasing a "ticket" at <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/farmstress/farmcouples/>. The weekend is limited to the first 10 couples who register and provide the refundable deposit.

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please do so as early as possible prior to the program or activity so that proper arrangements can be made. Requests are kept confidential.